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Inter-Arab Affairs

'Abd-al-Majid Expresses Concern Over Lebanon

LD0307215891 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 3 Jul 91

[Text] In Cairo, a Palestinian source announced that 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, secretary general of the Arab League, has promised to work to preserve Palestinian rights in Lebanon. This came in a letter 'Abd-al-Majid addressed to brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] yesterday. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid emphasized in his letter the Arab League's concern to stop the military operations in Lebanon, and he called on all parties to exercise self-control.

'Abd-al-Majid on Gulf Tour, U.S. Peace Efforts

PM0907081691 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 5 Jul 91 p 26

[Unattributed interview with Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid in Riyadh; date not given]

[Excerpts] [AL-HAWADITH] How was your tour of the Gulf states?

['Abd-al-Majid] It was extremely useful and positive. In my meetings with the leaders of the region's states I focused on two main issues. The first was restoration of Arab solidarity, clearing the air, mending the rift, and overcoming the repercussions of the Kuwait crisis and the Iraqi invasion. The second issue was the development of the Arab League's work and the amendment of its charter as soon as possible in order to be able to keep up with the regional and international changes and to play a more effective part in enhancing joint Arab action in the future.

I felt that the kings and amirs of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] states sincerely wanted Arab reunion and solidarity on firm foundations based on clarity and frankness and benefitting from the lessons of the past, rather than forgetting them, because people are still affected by the wounds caused by the Iraqi invasion. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAWADITH] Does the Arab League bless the U.S. efforts to resolve the Middle East question, and does the Arab League play a part in these efforts?

['Abd-al-Majid] The Palestinian question is the core of the Middle East conflict and it is the central Arab cause. There can be no peace with Israel unless that question is settled. It is a trust in the hands of the Arab states. All the Arab states are very much interested in arriving at an honorable solution that will guarantee the Palestinian people's legitimate political and social rights. At present there is no party representing the Palestinian people other than that which these people themselves decide in connection with negotiations for their legitimate rights and for the settlement of their just cause.

What the Arabs want from the current peace efforts is a just and comprehensive peace that will fulfill the Palestinian people's legitimate demands. We must persevere to ensure the continuation of the peace efforts and to ensure that the opportunity for peace, meeting the Arab demand for a complete withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in the 1967 war, is not missed.

There can be no doubt that the Arab League supports the U.S. efforts to promote a just and honorable settlement of the Middle East crisis. It blesses these contacts and believes that their aim is to achieve a just and honorable peace and settlement of the Palestinian question fulfilling the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights and bringing about an Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories.

[AL-HAWADITH] What is the Arab League's position on current events in Somalia?

['Abd-al-Majid] Somalia is a member of the Arab League, and the most important thing for us is its political, economic, and social stability and its territorial integrity. The Arab League's concern is for Somalia's unity and the restoration of its security and stability. We view any secession attempt with distress and regret because Somalia must remain united. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAWADITH] There is some talk about security arrangements in the Gulf region. What part will the Arab League play in these arrangements?

['Abd-al-Majid] These arrangements are a matter for the states concerned. It is up to them to decide what measures to take to safeguard their national security and to defend themselves. The decision is theirs. As an Arab region, it would be better if we could have cooperation among the Arab states in implementing security measures.

In my view, the security arrangements should lie within the framework of all aspects of the general pan-Arab concept of security.

Durdah, Sidqi Address 6 Jul Banghazi Meeting

LD0707092691 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0725 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Text] Banghazi, 7 Jul (JANA)—The second session of the higher Arab Libyan-Egyptian joint committee began in Banghazi last night. The opening meeting was attended by brother Abu-Zayd 'Umar Durdah, secretary of the General People's Committee, and Dr. 'Atif Sidqi, prime minister of the fraternal Arab Republic of Egypt.

Brother Abu-Zayd 'Umar Durdah delivered an address at the beginning of the meeting welcoming brother 'Atif Sidqi and his accompanying delegation and expressing satisfaction with what has been achieved between brothers in the Great Jamahiriyah and Egypt in implementing the directives of the two countries' leaderships, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great al-Fatih revolution, and President Husni Mubarak. He stressed that our satisfaction stems from the fact that two

fraternal countries have reached an agreement for integration which is a step along the path of comprehensive Arab unity. He added that a number of legal frameworks for integration will be agreed upon during this session in the form of agreements and minutes. This is in addition to what has already been accomplished between institutions, production units, and public utilities of the two fraternal countries.

The brother secretary of the General People's Committee added: We are meeting here at this session following the ratification of agreements reached between the two fraternal countries by the Basic People's Congresses in the Great Jamahiriyah and the People's Assembly in the Arab Republic of Egypt. He asserted: We are going to achieve, at our meeting, further steps toward the implementation of the content and the clauses of all agreements, and will make further steps to take us nearer the aim of integration.

Brother Abu-Zayd 'Umar Durdah affirmed that we do not look at integration with fraternal Egypt as an aim or ephemeral and temporary work between the two countries, but as a step for a strategic achievement, i.e., comprehensive Arab unity. He added: We are convinced that our brothers in Egypt, led by President Husni Mubarak, are no less determined to achieve the joint goals.

The brother secretary of the General People's Congress stated: We have repeatedly heard the directives of the brother leader of the revolution and of President Husni Mubarak, during their frequent meetings, that there should be no hesitation nor any reservation in pursuing integration, and that one should go to any length so achieve it, given the fact that the legal framework for integration has already been drawn up.

Dr. 'Atif Sidqi, prime minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt, then delivered a speech. He began by saluting the brother secretary of the General People's Committee and expressing his satisfaction with the warm welcome he and his colleagues, the members of the Egyptian delegation, were accorded by their Libyan Arab brothers in the Great Jamahiriyah. Dr. 'Atif Sidqi said that this meeting follows the historic meeting between the two leaders, the brother leader of the Great al-Fatih revolution and Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in Alexandria a few days ago.

Dr. 'Atif Sidqi added: This meeting, at this precise time, represents a huge historic responsibility to complete the process we began last January despite the gloomy circumstances and climate surrounding the future of the Middle East region and the future of the Arab nation at that time. He stressed that the Arab Republic of Egypt takes a serious stand on all agreements with a framework for integrated cooperation between the two countries and the two Arab peoples, and that it is eager to realize all facets of cooperation in the interest of the Libyan Arab and Egyptian peoples.

He added: We will bridge all gaps and overcome all obstacles that might obstruct the unionist march, which Egypt is determined to pursue energetically and seriously. We cannot avoid taking this path because it completes what has already been entrenched between us, and it fulfills our aspirations because our fate is the same. The two peoples cannot do without each other, nor can they ignore the fact that they are the same people with the same history, the same hopes, and the same common ("goal). I pray to God to preserve Libya and preserve Egypt from all ("evil), and to guide our efforts along the right track and along the path of integration, under the leadership of the two leaders, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Husni Mubarak.

Prime Minister Sidqi Meets 'Arafat in Libya

NC0807144691 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1240 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Banghazi 8 Jul MENA—Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi received PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at his place of residence in Banghazi this afternoon. 'Arafat, who is currently visiting Libya, had requested a meeting with Dr. Sidqi.

Palestinian Affairs

PFLP Warns Kuwait on Repressing Palestinians

NC0807150791 Paris AFP in English 1452 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Damascus, July 8 (AFP)—A key PLO leader warned Monday that Palestinians would "retaliate with all means" if the Kuwaiti authorities allowed the repression of the Palestinian community in the emirate. "We warn the princes and shaykhs of Kuwait against the repression being carried out by security organs and the militias against the Palestinian people of Kuwait," said George Habash. The leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), which is one of the three main groups in the Palestine Liberation Organisation, said "the cup has overflowed and we can not remain idle in the face of such crimes." "The Palestinian people will know how to retaliate with all means," he warned in a communique distributed in Damascus, where the PFLP has its base.

The 400,000-member Palestinian community in Kuwait has been halved since Iraqi troops were driven out, and they have reportedly been victimised on charges of having collaborated during the seven- month occupation.

'Arafat Addresses North America, Canada Meeting

LD3006084791 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 28 Jun 91

[Message from Yasir 'Arafat to ambassador Absa Claude Diallo, chairman of the "UN committee on the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people," on

the occasion of convening the eighth meeting of North America and Canada on the Palestinian issue]

[Excerpts] Greetings: On the occasion of convening your eighth meeting of North America and Canada on the Palestinian issue, it gives me pleasure in the name of our Palestinian people, in the name of my brother members of the PLO Executive Committee, and in my own name to extend to you best fraternal greetings and most sincere wishes for the success of the work of your esteemed meeting. [passage omitted]

Ladies and gentlemen: Your esteemed meeting is being held at a time when our Palestinian issue and our Palestinian people are passing through extremely difficult circumstances after the Gulf war in which two Arab states, Iraq and Kuwait, were destroyed and the area suffered great disasters with results that cannot be calculated now or for some time to come. One must bear in mind that the results of this war that have emerged so far were catastrophic for the states and the peoples of this area and for world security and stability.

Our Palestinian people paid a very heavy price in this war. On the one hand, the U.S. Government is trying to make the PLO pay the political price which the U.S. Government and Israel have always been trying to achieve, namely to destroy the PLO and paralyze the resolutions of the international legitimacy and its call for a just and peaceful solution.

On the other hand, our Palestinian people have been paying a heavy price by way of the Kuwaiti inquisition trials which have been imposing a blanket injustice on the Palestinian people in Kuwait solely because they are Palestinians, using every absurd pretext and excuse. The violation of Palestinian human rights in Kuwait by the Kuwaiti inquisition trials has become a matter on the agenda of the work of all upright and honorable free men in the world. On your shoulders fall great responsibilities for stopping the persecution, torture, and oppression meted out on our people by applying pressure on the Kuwaiti Government and adopting effective measures for the purpose of stopping this frenzied campaign against our people.

You are also aware of the difficult circumstances through which the Palestinian issue has been passing as a result of the Israeli Government escalation of its repressive measures, its crimes and massacres inside our occupied soil, and its stepped up pace of attacks and raids on the camps of our people in southern Lebanon. These difficult circumstances are also a result of continuing denial of our people's national rights and hampering of all international efforts to find a just and peaceful solution to the Palestinian issue and the conflict in the Middle East, including Israel's rejection of President George Bush's initiative which he announced before Congress on 6 March 1991, which included the principle for solving the conflict peacefully.

You know that we have welcomed this initiative despite its clear drawbacks. We made efforts to facilitate the peace process. We issued instructions to our brothers in the national command inside our occupied territory to meet with Mr. James Baker, U.S. secretary of state, but it became quite clear to us through these meetings that Mr. Baker has come to the area with a plan different from the principles announced by George Bush. This plan involves the dual policy based on normalizing Arab-Israeli relations and postponing the solution to the Palestinian issue, the core of the struggle in the area, to a later stage by prolonging the Israeli occupation and the continuing suffering of our people under this occupation.

Instead of defending the international legitimacy which the U.S. Government upheld in the Gulf war for its own interests and instead of working for upholding an international Middle East peace conference under UN auspices, the United States proposed a regional conference which deprives the United Nations of its content, diminishes its role to that of a silent observer, and marginalizes the role of international legitimacy to that of a ceremonial role.

This 180-degree turn by the United States as well as increasing support for Israel in the military, economic, and financial fields mean that the U.S. Government is helping the Israeli Government to continue to step up its intransigence and refusal to withdraw from the occupied areas, to challenge the will of the international community and to continue to flout UN resolutions and its charters including the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, to violate Palestinian human rights, and to escalate its repressive policies against our people in an feverish attempt to strike the Palestinian intifadah by all ways and means including disguising people in popular or female dress as shown in the Israeli inquiry some days ago. Expelling Palestinian citizens from their land, confiscating land, building settlements, and letting new Jewish immigrants live in the place of our people—all this constitutes a structure for implementing the transfer plan.

The U.S. Administration has become aware of half the truth, namely that building settlements hampers its efforts and the efforts of the international community to realize peace, but it does not see the other half, namely that peace and stability in the area cannot be achieved without meeting the inalienable national rights of our Palestinian people, including their right to return and self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

Despite all these tragedies and these U.S. and Israeli policies which are hostile to our people, I affirm to you that our people are still committed to the Palestinian peace initiative announced by our National Council in 1988 and which I declared in Geneva the same year. We still see that the best way to find a peaceful solution in the area lies in convening an international peace conference on the Middle East under UN sponsorship and with the participation of the permanent members of the UN Security Council and all the parties concerned including the PLO and the Israeli Government on equal footing.

We also see the need and importance of giving international protection to our people immediately as called for by the UN Security Council Resolution 681. [passage omitted]

'Arafat Interviewed on Kuwait, Peace Process

JN0507084591 Amman SHIHAN in Arabic
6-12 Jul pp 10, 11

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by Raja Talab in Tunis—date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Talab] Most prominent among the results of the Gulf crisis is the horrendous massacres of Palestinians in Kuwait, of which you previously warned. What has the PLO done to deal with this disaster that has befallen the Palestinians?

['Arafat] I want to say something. I expected this to happen. I repeatedly warned of a new Sabra and Shatila. When on several occasions Palestinian officials came to see me in Baghdad, I warned them of a Kuwaiti Sabra and Shatila. I told them that the Iraqi brothers would leave Kuwait, either politically or militarily, because it is incomprehensible that Iraq would be allowed to emerge victorious if war begins because this would mean that the Arabs will become the major power in the world. I used to ask those officials what they would do when the Iraqis leave Kuwait, and I cautioned that a new Sabra and Shatila would befall my people there because of the Palestinian stance which was distorted by Arab and Western media as though we were the ones who occupied Kuwait. They blamed all thefts on us, and some Arab newspapers went as far as to say that 'Awni Battash, Palestine's ambassador in Kuwait, was the one who guided the Iraqi Army to strategic positions in Kuwait, as if the Iraqi Army needs 'Awni Battash to show it where these positions are when it knows every nook and cranny in Kuwait.

This is a spiteful act. They sought to kill two birds with one stone; to hit Iraq and Palestine. Our people refused to bear arms despite the fact that they were approached in this regard and refused to join the popular army. Had our people chosen to bear arms, they would have possessed at least 20-30,000 pieces. Would Schwarzkopf have managed to enter Kuwait had this happened? Had we chosen to bear arms, we would have formed militias like the ones there now, and no one would have managed to attack us. So why all these lies about the Palestinians? It is because they do not want any Palestinian to remain in Kuwait. [passage omitted]

[Talab] Sa'ud Nasir al-Sabah, Kuwaiti ambassador to Washington, implied that President Bush approves what is happening in Kuwait. What is your comment?

['Arafat] What is happening in Kuwait in brief is the responsibility of the U.S. Army, which is the largest military force in Kuwait and it is fully responsible for what is taking place there. In Sabra and Shatila there was a massacre, and in Kuwait there is a massacre. America is responsible for both massacres, because when I left Beirut I left it in the custody of the Americans under a written agreement between me and Philip Habib. This time, however, I was not present in Kuwait where there are mass graves. The disaster will occur when the families of the killed discover the reality of the killing of their sons and their burial in these graves. I wonder who will remain silent then?

I say this to Shaykh Jabir and ask him: Do you expect the Palestinians to remain silent?

I think that with the help of the United States, they [Kuwaiti rulers] are fostering grudges between two Arab peoples.

[Talab] On the eve of the expiry of the martial law, the Kuwaiti Government commuted the death sentences passed against many Palestinians to life imprisonment. How do you assess this step?

['Arafat] I would like to ask Shaykh Sa'd, who will protect the dead who were buried in mass graves? Shaykh Sa'd, have you forgotten that we refused to carry arms and that, thanks to our doctors, engineers, and teachers, we ran Kuwait when you were out of the country?

We fed the Kuwaitis and gave them water during the Iraqi occupation. We were the ones to run the public utilities such as water, electricity services, and hospitals. It is a big lie to say that the Palestinians who had passports had left the country and that the Palestinians whom you accuse of having collaborated with Iraq had also left with the Iraqis.

A woman is sentenced to death because she asked to work in a newspaper. This is hatred in its purest form!!!

[Talab] Abu-'Ammar ['Arafat], this leads us to the relations between you and the Gulf rulers. Do you believe this relationship has reached the point of no return?

['Arafat] We have not received a single penny from any Gulf country since May 1990; that is three months before the crisis. This is to punish the PLO as Murphy had stated recently, and as another U.S. official had stated that "we must dry out the PLO's financial resources to make it kneel and make it easier to control." I would like to say that the Palestinians will starve but will remain proud. Our people in Gaza are threatened with starvation, as is the case with our people in the West Bank. It is regrettable that I am forced to ask the Europeans to increase their assistance to make up for the Arabs shortcomings. [passage omited]

[Talab] Will a Fatah Central Committee delegation visit Syria?

['Arafat] Yes.

[Talab] Will it hold talks dealing with only Fatah issues or with Palestinian issues in general?

['Arafat'] No, the delegation will hold talks dealing with general issues concerning overall Palestinian-Syrian relations.

[Talab] Regarding the Baker plan, the Americans have thus far been unable to overcome the complex of Palestinian representation in regard to the PLO or Israel. How do you view this issue now?

['Arafat] Let me tell you one thing. Having failed to convince Shamir of anything, the Americans are trying now to give the impression "that the dispute is over Palestinian representation. The truth is that we have been in agreement with the Americans on Palestinian representation since June 1990. So, if there is any change or retreat, it is on the part of the Americans. We have the right, moreover, to ask will the Israelis withdraw from Jerusalem or not? Are they going to implement Resolution 242 or not? Are they going to accept the land-for-peace principle or not? Are they going to give the Palestinians their legitimate political rights? Is this not what Bush said? Of course, Bush now forgot all of this.

The first time Bush said this was when he met in Martinique with President Mitterrand who stressed, at the time, the need for holding an international conference and recognizing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and a Palestinian state with the participation of the PLO. Bush answered him with a big "no" to the four demands. Bush's no's are the same Israeli no's. This means that there is an obvious retreat in Bush's stance and initiative which he announced to Congress. So instead of blaming Shamir, he says that the problem lies in "Palestinian representation."

[Talab] What is the solution? What are the Americans going to do to get out of this impasse? Will they, for example, hold an Arab party responsible for the failure of these efforts?

['Arafat] I am certain that they will impute this either to the PLO or Syria, or both.

[Talab] What would be the price of doing so? A new war, for instance?

['Arafat] I do not believe there is going to be a new war, but there are implicit hints and threats. I mean they have started talking about Syria's possession of Scud missiles, Algeria's possession of a nuclear reactor, and a chemical factory in Libya.

So the features of the U.S. initiative have become clear. They only want to normalize Arab-Israeli relations. Shamir clearly stated this. In fact, it is rare to have as reckless and insolently candid enemy as Shamir. He does not conceal a thing, nor does he leave anything for Bush to hide behind. Even his reply letter to Bush was released by the media. He has no right to do so, of course. Nor is it diplomatic conduct. The letter lacked politeness and the barest minimum of tactness.

[Talab] So this means there is nothing new, Abu-'Ammar?

['Arafat] There is one thing new—normalization of Arab-Israeli relations.

Fatah's Khalid Al-Hasan Interviewed on Peace

PM0907102691 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 5 Jul 91 pp 32-33

[Unattributed interview with Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [AL-HAWADITH] Are international peace efforts making any progress?

[Al-Hasan] We notice several contradictions in these efforts. The first contradiction is that Shamir is still playing on the security element in order to delay the U.S. move until the next Congress and U.S. presidential elections and to gain time, just as he has in the past. It is a constant Israeli policy. This is why we see the fluctuations displayed by Shamir on the settlements issue. They are in fact designed to exploit the time factor to avoid reaching a political solution. We also noticed that during the Gulf war Shamir called for an Arab-Israeli peace before a solution of the Palestinian problem. Then 241 U.S. senators handed the U.S. State Department a memorandum to the same effect. This means that their principal view is, first, to resolve Israeli-Arab problems and normalize Arab-Israeli relations. In other words, to start resolving the problem the wrong way—from the end first.

But credit is due to the Saudi position which opposed this when it rejected a regional conference comprising all the Middle East states except the Palestinians to discuss normalizing Arab-Israeli relations. Saudi, Syrian, and Egyptian diplomacy managed to turn the issue in question from a regional conference into a conference comprising the states surrounding the Zionist entity; that is, the frontline states. Some people call it a peace conference, while others call it a preliminary conference that would eventually return to the normal thing.

Here a new problem emerged—the problem of Palestinian representation. The United States is refusing to accept PLO participation at the start. It believes that the starting point is international resolution 242, which deals with the effects of the 1967 war. Then PLO participation would start three, four, or five years after these have been resolved—according to the Camp David accords—to discuss the final solution of the Palestinian problem. Israel also rejects the PLO's presence now and in the future. It was undoubtedly the PLO leadership's position on the Gulf war that prompted the Gulf states' boycotting of it—this in addition to Syria and Egypt. Thus the United States is no longer facing any pressure regarding the PLO issue. The PLO has very clearly become politically isolated—this on top of its financial isolation. This is why there is now talk of Palestinian representation being conducted by elements from inside [the occupied territories] and Palestinian elements chosen by Jordan to participate within the Jordanian delegation.

If the situation continues on the basis of elements from inside only, the most that will be discussed is the issue of a supervised autonomy, which is less than an independent state and more than autonomy. So a solution was needed leading to a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the elimination of the PLO's isolation at the Arab level in order to penetrate the weak point in the European position and then to foster Arab and international public pressure on the United States to restore its dialogue with the PLO on the basis of a bold political dialogue—not as it was in the past: a marginal dialogue over procedural secondary issues.

This is the actual situation now, which is why it was proposed to implement the resolution of the [Palestine] National Council [PNC] elected in Algiers to establish a provisional government formed not from the Palestinian organizations but from specialized national and political figures from inside and outside the occupied homeland. What is needed is a policy supported by specialization and experience because the subjects for discussion demand technical experience; that is as long as the negotiating delegation is joined by many. In other words, it is necessary now for the inside to participate with the outside since it is no longer permissible that the outside issue orders to the inside. That stage ended with the eruption of the intifadah inside. Following the Gulf war there must be a real partnership between the inside and outside.

The Executive Committee is now exercising the powers of a provisional government. Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] became head of state but was not appointed head of government. So there must be a head of government who will choose the members of his cabinet, who has special powers in political, negotiation, and information acts; and who will reach agreement with Jordan on the aim of a confederation and then on how to form a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that will not negate the independence of either of the two delegations, but rather safeguard it. If the United States remains in earnest and manages to convene an international conference in a positive way, the joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation's foremost objective would be a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation, not only autonomy.

[AL-HAWADITH] Does that mean that you are for a confederation with Jordan?

[Al-Hasan] Establishing a confederation with Jordan is the PNC's decision. I am not entitled to say anything that conflicts with PNC resolutions. The confederation is the PNC's decision, and the provisional government is the PNC's decision.

[AL-HAWADITH] What is your position toward Egypt and Syria?

[Al-Hasan] It is the same as toward the Gulf states. The PLO is now clearly isolated from the Gulf Cooperation Council states, Syria, and Egypt.

[AL-HAWADITH] Was the PLO mistaken in its position during the Gulf war?

[Al-Hasan] I believe that the PLO violated a principle stipulated by Fatah and the PLO in the charter, namely, not to interfere as a party in an Arab dispute. We maintained such a position on the Moroccan-Algerian dispute over the Sahara. We supported neither Algeria nor Morocco. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAWADITH] Has the time come to convene another PNC session and to elect a new Executive Committee?

[Al-Hasan] Of course the time has come for that, and I hope that it will take place soon and that over 50 percent of the council will be real struggling independents—not organization members posing as independents as happened in the past—because the present PNC is illegitimate since the term was specified as one year at the Algiers PNC meetings. Before the Algiers Arab summit there was a need to form a new PNC, taking account of all the forces in the arena, including Hamas. The PNC should include all forces, proportionately to their real presence on the Palestinian scene, and as with any other people in the world, the overwhelming majority of the Palestinian people are independents. They are called the silent majority.

[AL-HAWADITH] What was the outcome of the recent negotiations with Syria?

[Al-Hasan] They have not produced any result so far. They made a good start, but they need to continue and go into the details, especially between Fatah and Syria. I hope that a Fatah delegation will go there to complete what Abu-al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] started. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAWADITH] Some people believe that the views currently being aired vis-a-vis the Arab-Israeli conflict will lead us nowhere because Israel is strengthening its position with more settlements.

[Al-Hasan] Building settlements in the occupied territories and the emigration of Ethiopian Jews, or the so-called Falasha, and of Soviet Jews are all factors for aborting any political action and perpetuating the present situation because the Likud government does not want to relinquish a single inch of land, whether or not President Bush succeeds in his endeavor. We cannot say that U.S. endeavors have so far been serious, but whether they will expand and whether these aims will become clear is another matter which can only be determined through dialogue and contacts. If the United States fails, it is not the end of the world; the struggle will continue.

The Palestinian cause will remain a serious one until a just solution acceptable to the Palestinian people is established. Without that, the Palestinian cause is a vital and explosive cause at the level of the Arab nation's masses, the Islamic world's masses, and the masses of the

world as a whole; and it cannot be eliminated except by eliminating one of the two sides.

[AL-HAWADITH] Some people cast doubt on the Soviet Union's present stances. Do you support this view?

[Al-Hasan] Regrettably, the Soviet Union no longer has a role in international politics as it did in the past. The Soviet Union is at the stage of demolishing with a view to rebuilding, and anyone who demolishes his home usually tends not to live in it, but to live in a tent outside the home or in a home that he does not own. The important thing is that the Soviet Union will decide what it wants when it has finished building itself and restoring its health and strength in a new way. So far, following its move from the balance of power to the balance of interests and from the principles of political confrontation to joint interests with the United States and the Western states, the Soviet Union is no longer a staunch ally; it has become a prisoner of its interests. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAWADITH] Who killed Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf]?

[Al-Hasan] It is known who killed Abu-Iyad and Abu-al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd-al-Hamid], but those behind the murder are not known. A large question mark hangs over this. Abu-Iyad was definitely not killed because of his position on the Gulf crisis. This is idle talk designed to divert attention from other factors.

There is also a large question mark about who killed Abu-Jihad. We pray to God not to make our hearts bleed with further incidents and to make us careful to ensure that no more killings occur, as happened to Hawwari, who was said to have been killed in a car accident. I do not know how true this is either. It might actually have been a car accident; I do not know. There is great uncertainty among the various Fatah cadres regarding this matter.

OPEC Affairs

Oil Producers, Consumers Hold Conference in Paris

Conference Opens 1 July

LD0207040391 Vienna OPECNA in English 2010 GMT 1 Jul 91

[Text] Paris 1 July (OPECNA)—French State Minister for Foreign Affairs Roland Dumas officially opened the first producer-consumer oil dialogue here this morning, saying he believed there was now a greater awareness for the need for closer ties within the oil industry. He told delegates that thinking had now changed, particularly after the Gulf crisis, and the "winds were moving on" to a new feeling of responsibility. However, the minister said that the intentions of the meeting should not be misconstrued after this stage since "we do not know yet how the dialogue should be conducted."

He pointed out that the idea of having such a dialogue was not new and several countries had tried to put it into practice—namely Norway—but the implementation had not proved to be easy. Dumas stressed that the talks were not seeking to implement any form of inter-governmental control over the oil market. But he said the market did require more transparency and the participants in the industry more information.

"It would be better if we could forecast prices," he said, adding that this only came from confidence throughout the whole process. "Oil can be a very destabilizing factor, not only in economic terms, but in political terms and its potential destabilizing effect can impinge on the whole world," he added.

In the second welcoming address, Venezuelan Minister for External Relations Armando Duran described the seminar as "historic". He said the agenda for the meeting was informal and the idea was to explore areas in which agreement could be reached. "We need to establish a climate of confidence designed to reduce uncertainty in the market," he observed. The minister said "we all agree that oil prices cannot be fixed," but it was possible to improve the operation of the market and to remove the destabilizing effects that were harmful to both producers and consumers.

There is an urgent need for cooperation in upstream integration. A recent survey had indicated that to increase oil production by five billion B/D [barrels a day] in the Gulf region could require 70 billion dollars in investment—finances the producer countries did not have. He asserted that the Paris meeting was a genuine step towards cooperation. "The winds of change are blowing and the era of confrontation is behind us now."

Meanwhile, Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs Thorvald Stoltenberg also expressed the belief that a new awareness of common interest among the market players was emerging. He pointed out that sharply fluctuating oil prices had detrimental effects not only on the economies of individual nations, trade, and the world economy, but could also create political tensions.

"Integrating oil and energy questions into broader designs for economic, environmental, and political cooperation is a more indirect, but probably more fruitful method, of reaching a common platform on all aspects of energy policy," he declared. Stoltenberg said that Norway saw the need for a new "global energy policy inter-relationship," a cooperative network of confidence building contacts and meetings among oil exporting and oil importing countries.

These, he said, could happen at political as well as technical levels, on a bilateral, regional and global basis where industry, energy organizations and financial institutions could play their appropriate role, in addition to governments.

"We think that discussions at political level can play an important role in broadening dialogue on energy. They

can promote common understanding of common problems as well as shared expectations. This, in turn, could improve the basis for national decision making and coordination of policies within international organizations," he affirmed.

In convening the meeting, it had been made clear that the aim of the talks was not to fix prices or production levels. "Our purpose is rather to send a signal of political confidence, to exchange information and policy views in an open and informal discussion. A more stable and predictable market will thus be a by- product of this process of confidence building," he said.

"A more stable and predictable energy market could foster economic growth for the benefit of developed and developing countries," he added. The minister continued: "We must learn to solve common problems through common action. We must cooperate to meet common global challenges. The relationship between energy, environment, and economic development is one of these challenges," he added.

Concerning the environment, Stoltenberg said this issue must find a prominent place on the agenda when oil producing and consuming countries meet. "The petroleum industry, governments, and international organizations need to search for efficient solutions as we approach the United Nations conference on environment and development in Brazil next year," he asserted.

Kuwaiti, Iraqi Absence Viewed

PM0307152691 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 2 Jul 91 p 9

['Uqbah 'Ali al-Salih report: "Minister Hisham Al-Nazir's Attendance Highlights Paris Oil Meeting"]

[Excerpts] Paris, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Kuwaiti and Iraqi absence from the "ministerial seminar of oil producers and consumers," which opened in Paris yesterday morning, drew observers' attention and raised numerous questions. It is clear that France wanted to free itself from the responsibility for not sending invitations to these two states because France invited the oil consumer states while Venezuela invited the oil producing states.

The idea of holding the seminar emerged at a summit between the French and Venezuelan presidents a year ago.

Although the official interpretation of this twofold absence is that invitations were not sent to all producer states or to all consumer states—since those absent include Qatar and Libya, among producers, and Belgium and a number of Latin American states, among consumers—French Industry and Foreign Trade Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn said in answer to a question from AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT said that "preparations for the meeting and the invitations sent were designed to avoid stirring up any further disagreements."

Had it not been for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's strong presence, represented by Oil Minister Hisham al-Nazir, the seminar would have lost its justification. This is because the United States decided at the outset not to attend, preferring to establish bilateral relations between producers and consumers, rather than on the basis of "blocs." As for the process of controlling the market, according to the U.S. view, it lies in the framework of the discussions of the International Energy Agency regarding consumers and OPEC regarding producers. [passage omitted]

Although the French have pointed out since the outset that the meeting's purpose is not decisionmaking but exchanging views, thus no final statement will be issued, their assertion that they are in favor of other states' calling for a second meeting has given the impression that they do not believe in the possibility of reaching tangible results, although the French industry minister said in a question put forward by AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that it is "merely French modesty," contrary to what is customary.

Nevertheless, the mere convening of the Paris meeting can be regarded as a success in itself, in view of the strong conflict of interests between producers and consumers. This means that a new awareness is emerging that severe fluctuations benefit nobody. They are harmful to industrial concerns as well as to both producer and consumer states alike.

U.S. 'Opposition' Noted

PM0807081291 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 2 Jul 91 pp 1, 4

[Salih al-Ashmar report: "'Undeclared Summit' for Oil Producers and Consumers"]

[Excerpts] Paris—The proceedings of the "ministerial seminar of oil producers and consumers" started yesterday. It was attended by 21 ministers and a number of senior officials representing 12 oil exporting countries and 11 oil consumer countries. The aim was to discuss what means the two sides can use to guarantee the oil market's stability and prices and also to exchange expertise and information between the sides in anticipation of shocks in the world market that would restore the atmosphere of the severe crises that the two sides suffered which caused tension in their ties—tension that reached the point of estrangement on many occasions.

From the beginning it was clear that the Gulf crisis and the tension that preceded and accompanied it and that led to growing concerns about the occurrence of a severe oil crisis was the first reason behind convening that seminar in response to a joint French-Venezuelan initiative with a view to establishing a base for a constructive dialogue between producers and consumers—a dialogue that will take account of the two sides' interests and end the years of economic and political tension between them and the effects of that on the international scene.

Despite the French and Venezuelan sides' assertion that the meeting is nothing but an opportunity for discussion, exchanging views, and studying oil market conditions and its requirements for the coming years—especially the assertion that the meeting will not end with a final statement or draw up any overview vis-a-vis price levels or interfere in the oil market—it seems that this seminar is actually an "undeclared summit" between producers and consumers. The talks conducted there constitute a real start for a serious dialogue between the two sides—a dialogue which is likely to turn into an official dialogue in the future. This is what the French officials hope or what their tone reflects when they talk about the seminar.

Actually this reservation in expressing the actual concept of the Paris energy seminar is attributable to U.S. opposition to any meeting of this kind that could lead to what Washington calls governmental intevention in the world oil market. It has always emphasized its adherence to the law of supply and demand as the only criterion for the market's operations. This is why the United States at first refused to participate in this seminar but later decided to do so, partially by sending a medium-level State Department official to attend as an observer. That was after consultations and telephone conversations between U.S. President George Bush and French President Francois Mitterrand. [passage omitted]

The seminar's success is confirmed by the attendance of so many ministers, including the oil ministers of seven OPEC states: the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Algeria, Iran, Indonesia, Nigeria, and Venezuela. This is in addition to the oil and industry ministers of other states outside the organization, such as Egypt, Oman, Brazil, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, and Italy, as well as officials of international organizations such as the IMF, the International Energy Agency, the EEC, and the United Nations. [passage omitted]

Saudi Oil Minister Speaks

LD0207224991 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1538 GMT 2 Jul 91

[Text] Paris, 2 Jul (SPA)—His Excellency Hisham Muhyi-al-Din Nazir, minister of petroleum and mineral resources and acting minister of planning, spoke yesterday at the meeting held in Paris between the oil producing and consuming countries. At the beginning of his speech, his excellency said: We should thank both France and Venezuela for their effort to convene this meeting and ensure its success. He further said: King Fahd Bin-'Abd -al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, had been calling for many years for such a dialogue and the personal friendship between the custodian of the two holy mosques, President Francois Mitterrand, and Venezuelan President Perez has given a great impetus to this meeting.

His excellency went on say that he had listened to the exposes and speeches at the morning meeting, and the figures and the list of wishes mentioned by some delegations had drawn his attention as did the historic interpretation of oil-related events. This difference in interpretation and in figures indicates the importance of dialogue between the oil producing and oil consuming countries, whether there be agreement or dispute with all that had been said.

He said: As for the figures mentioned, they have, like people, different languages, and the language of figures betrays their origin. He added that he would have wished that the figures which the representative of the International Monetary Fund had presented and specified reflected the effort made by the oil producing countries to protect the industrial and developing states from the disadvantage of price increases during the Gulf crisis.

He added that research by the International Monetary Fund itself shows that what was given by the producing states reached $40 billion and this had averted a cut in economic growth in the industrialized countries estimated at 8 percent and at about 2 percent in the developing countries annually, adding that he wished he had heard these figures from the Fund itself.

He said: Concerning the oil upheavals and their historic interpretation, their number varies from one country to another. The first upheaval was in the fifties when the companies were sharing profits with the oil states on a 50-50 basis for the first time, and if the companies has listened very well then and in the sixties to the demands of the producing states for a gradual prices rise, there would not have been what was termed as the first upheaval in the seventies. If the rises took place when they were asked for by the developing countries, the increases of the seventies would not have exceeded 3 cents a barrel a year.

Concerning the list of wishes, his excellency said: The list of wishes presented by the EEC should take into account the wishes of others too. His excellency concluded his address by saying: The success of dialogue requires understanding of the needs of the various sides and a firm desire to bring viewpoints closer to each other.

On leaving yesterday's session, his excellency was asked by a journalist about what criticism has been made to the Kingdom at the conference. He replied: What I heard was praise for the constructive positions of the Kingdom.

To another question on why the Kingdom had not persuaded the United States to attend the conference early, his excellency answered that he spoke only about the positions of the Kingdom and that the Kingdom did not interfere in the decisions of others.

IEA Proposes Committee

LD0307082891 Vienna OPECNA in English 1745 GMT 2 Jul 91

[Text] Paris 2 July (OPECNA)—The International Energy Agency (IEA) this morning proposed that a joint

committee of experts comprising oil producer and consumer officials be set up to study various issues in the oil market. The move was announced at the end of the morning session of the second day of the ministerial producer-consumer seminar here which is being attended by 25 OPEC and non-OPEC producing and consuming countries and several international organizations and institutions.

Sources close to the talks said that it now also appeared likely, following moves made in the morning, that the ministerial seminar would become a regular event, may be even annually.

French Industry and Commerce Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn told reporters: "We are overcrowded with offers from countries to follow up on this seminar."

Several states, including the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Italy and likely Norwary, had said that they were interested in staging the next ministerial meeting, he said. "This will not be the beginning of an organization, but the beginning of a new tradition, annually would seem realistic," he asserted.

"Norway is saying now that this dialogue is a bad idea—as some countries indicated a few weeks ago. Everybody says we have to follow up the seminar," he added. The minister noted the unanimous acknowledgement by participants of the IEA proposal for the new committee as a good idea. The move was reported to have been supported by the European Economic Community (EEC). Such a committee, he said, would deal with the same issues that had been tabled at the ministerial seminar. These will include production and consumption levels. The minister said that the producers had yet to respond to the proposal which is "on the table", but he said he thought that they would agree to it later in the afternoon.

Concerning discussions on energy future markets held in the morning session, Strauss-Kahn said that he had made a proposal to the market authorities to try and introduce other kinds of products into these markets, including heavy oil and kerosene. He said the observation was made that the futures markets, which were more in the tune with consumers than producers, did not work as well as they should. Oil, which was quoted on these markets, was of a special type—dubayy light for example—which was not fully representative of all global markets. He revealed that during a round of technical discussions it had been suggested that a "kind of information market" be set up globally to serve both sides, although it was unclear what technical form it would take.

"This would enable us to exchange information and act as a kind of clearing house. It would enable us to compare all types of forecasts as far as the price of oil is concerned," he added.

Iranian Oil Minister Comments

LD0407071791 Tehran IRNA in English 0552 GMT 4 Jul 91

[Text] Paris, July 4 IRNA—Iran's Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh said here Wednesday night that an oil seminar between oil exporters and consumer countries here Tuesday and Wednesday had been quite satisfactory. He expressed hope that the seminar would be repeated on a periodical basis.

The Iranian oil minister said the proposal for the seminar had been offered by Iran during a recent meeting of the ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Vienna which was shortly followed by a seminar in Iran's city of Isfahan in May. The consultative and informal seminar between the exporters and consumer countries which was held upon recommendation of France and Venezuela was attended by 25 countries including Iran.

Aqazadeh said the seminar has as yet to tackle such basic questions as transfer of technology, market stability and the environment. The Iranian oil minister said beyond the context of the seminar he had also seized the opportunity to confer with the officials of the French companies Elf, Total and Gaz de France, as well as with French Minister of Industries and Foreign Trade Strauss-Khan. Aqazadeh who has been here since Sunday is to return to Tehran Thursday.

South Asian Regional Affairs

India on Aid for Pakistan Nuclear Weapons Program

BK0807160491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] India today decried external assistance to Pakistan in its clandestine nuclear weapons program. Commenting on the sale of equipment by a Norwegian firm to Pakistan for its nuclear facilities, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi that India has never any doubts about the weapon orientation of Pakistan's nuclear program. The manner in which the sale was reportedly effected substantiates the nature of our doubts, he added.

Islamabad Not To Impose Restrictions on Passengers

BK0807161891 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Islamabad has assured New Delhi that there is no intention on the part of Pakistan to impose any new restriction on Indian passengers at Pakistani airports. This was conveyed to the Indian high commissioner in Islamabad, Mr. J.N. Dixit, when he called on the Pakistan foreign secretary, Mr. Shaharyar Khan, today to seek clarifications on reports concerning restrictions proposed to be imposed on Indian transit passengers. The foreign secretary also assured that the existing agreements signed between India

and Pakistan will strictly be adhered to. He said the government of Pakistan will not take any unilateral steps in altering the existing visa agreement between the two countries. It may be recalled that India had warned Pakistan that New Delhi would be forced to review its policy about travel between the two countries if Islamabad did not reverse its decision not to allow Indian transit passengers out of airports in Pakistan.

New Delhi Welcomes UN Afghan Settlement Proposal

BK0807162491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] New Delhi has welcomed the UN secretary general's proposal for a political settlement of the Afghan problem, saying it reflects the approach consistently advocated by it. A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said today that India has always been of the view that a political settlement based on ground realities and taking into account the legitimate interests of all concerned has to be arrived at by the Afghans themselves without any external interference. He said India will continue to make constructive efforts to facilitate the peace process in Afghanistan.

Indian Minister Addresses SAARC Meeting

BK0407032891 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0240 GMT 4 Jul 91

[Text] India has called upon the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] nations to liberalize trade relations among its members. Addressing the ministerial meeting of the seven-nation SAARC at Male yesterday, the external affairs minister, Mr. Madhavsinh Solanki, said trade among the countries in the region has declined in terms of percentage of world trade. He said the solution to the economic problems in the region could be found through increased intra-regional trade, investment, joint ventures and production arrangements.

Earlier, in his inaugural address, the Maldivian president, Mr. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, urged the member states to immediately ratify the SAARC convention on suppression of terrorism signed in Kathmandu four years ago. This will help curb terrorism more vigorously. Meanwhile, India has reiterated the stand that Pakistan's continued assistance to subversive elements in Kashmir and Punjab and its efforts to internationalize the Kashmir issue are inconsistent with its public posture of improving its relations with New Delhi. This was made clear by the foreign secretary, Mr. Muchkund Dubey, at an informal meeting with his Pakistani counterpart, Mr. Shaharyar Khan, in Male last evening.

SAARC To Grant 'Most Favored Nation' Status

BK0407160491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 4 Jul 91

[Text] The SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] Council of Ministers has agreed to an Indian proposal to give the Most Favored Nation treatment to one another in trade. This was decided at the two-day meeting of the council which ended in Male today. Under the agreement, trade and manufacturing services and tourism among the member countries will be institutionalized.

The external affairs minister, Mr. Madhavsinh Solanki, has called upon the members to liberalize the regional trade. The meeting also decided to hold the next SAARC summit in Colombo from the 7th to the 9th of November this year. The foreign ministers of India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and Maldives also agreed to coordinate efforts to combat terrorism in the region.

Minister Says Male SAARC Meeting 'Success'

BK0507162691 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] The SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] ministerial meeting at Male has decided to set up a high-level standing committee to pursue economic cooperation in the region. The external affairs minister, Mr. Madhavsinh Solanki, who returned to the capital this evening said the meeting was a success with significant decisions on economic development. The high-level committee will consider among other proposals the idea of making South Asia a free trade area. Mutual granting of most favored nation status is also to be taken up by the committee.

Algeria

Islamic Call League Seeks Release of Activists

LD0807140991 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Ahmed Sahnoun, leader of the Islamic Call League, yesterday addressed an appeal to the president of the republic for the immediate release of leaders and activists of the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS]. The statement was read yesterday evening to prayer congregations at a number of mosques in the capital. In the statement, Sahnoun calls for the release of Abassi Madani, Ali Belhadj, and Mohamed Said, the new official spokesman of the front, who was arrested yesterday in Kouba while holding a news conference.

Ahmed Sahnoun, who is widely respected by all Islamic bodies in Algeria, warned the regime against continuing its blows against the Islamic Salvation Front. He said the consequences are known only to God.

Sahnoun refers in the appeal to the fact that Mohamed Said, the Islamic Call League's deputy, was approved by various officials of the FIS governorate councils as a temporary FIS spokesman in the absence of the detained Abassi and Ali Belhadj. He criticizes the arrests and calls for dialogue to restore security and stability.

Islamic Salvation Front Aide Threatens To Quit

LD0807213291 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 1800 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] The FIS [Islamic Salvation Front] still seems to be searching for internal cohesion. In an interview published today by the daily LE SOIR D'ALGERIE, Shaykh Sahnouni, who is generally seen as number three in the FIS leadership, has threatened—I quote—to leave the FIS if the latter was after power. Shaykh Sahnouni will hold a news conference tomorrow.

Egypt

Spokesman Rejects Remarks by Israel's Sharon

NC0907094291 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0855 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] Cairo, 9 Jul (MENA)—Egypt has expressed its categorical rejection of Israeli Minister Ari'el Sharon's statements on Israel's refusal to relinquish the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and of the Israeli Housing and Construction Ministry's intensification of settlement in the occupied parts of Arab Jerusalem.

The Foreign Ministry's official spokesman made a statement today in which he said that Israel's continuation of its settlement policies is a violation of international law and has no legitimacy. He stressed the need to halt the settlement process to remove any obstacles so that the peace efforts will have an opportunity for success.

The official spokesman condemned this unprecedented wave of settlement, which denies the Palestinians their rights in the occupied territories and constitutes a bad omen for the peace process.

Mubarak Receives Message From Saudi King

NC0907103691 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] Cairo, 9 Jul (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received a written message today dealing with bilateral relations from Saudi King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques.

The message was delivered by Saudi Education Minister Dr. 'Abd- al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytar during his meeting with President Mubarak at the presidential office.

Columnist Questions U.S. Motives Toward Iraq

NC0507161191 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 2 Jul 91 p 6

[Salamah Ahmad Salamah column: "Covering Up Failure"]

[Text] Does the situation in Iraq warrant a new U.S. military action there?

In other words, does the recent incident, when it was reported that Iraqi troops prevented the UN inspection team from entering a military base where it is believed nuclear equipment is located, deserve this angry attack on Iraq by President Bush?

The story and the clamor that ensued are not without exaggeration and emotion, and they raise many doubts.

Are they a threat to Saddam Husayn meant to frighten him and force him to comply with the UN resolutions? Or are they meant to cover up the failure of the U.S. Administration's efforts to achieve peace and divert attention from Israel's blatant challenge to the U.S. Administration's demands and to the hopes of the Middle East peoples for peace?

Are they new excuses for launching a limited military operation to achieve the ultimate aim of the Desert Shield operation, namely to uproot Saddam Husayn and finish him once and for all? Or are they the soundtrack accompanying the funeral of the peace efforts now that the season of Baker's digging, during which he did not find any vestiges of peace possibilities, is over?

No one knows for sure what is planned for the region. But many in the Arab world look with amazement and doubt at the developments and incidents accompanying the moves of the United States and its allies in the region. At the beginning, U.S. intelligence organs confirmed that they were certain that Iraq had no nuclear capability after Iraqi officials provided information on the nuclear equipment or material they possessed.

Several days later, however, the same intelligence organs came out with evidence that proves the opposite. An

incident took place, namely the prevention of the UN inspectors from entering the military base, before the UN team submitted the results of its inspection of Iraq's nuclear facilities to the Security Council. All hell broke loose in Washington, Bush made his threats, and meetings began to draw up appropriate military options.

Does the mere noncooperation of the Iraqis with the UN inspection teams warrant the threat of military force at a time when U.S. and British forces are in northern Iraq on the pretext of protecting the Kurds?

Certainly, the imbalance in the U.S. reaction must raise doubts about the true ultimate aim of Operation Desert Shield and about the U.S. ability to fulfill its promises.

Opposition Parties Urge New Constitution, Reforms

NC0807151991 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1318 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jul (MENA)—Egyptian opposition parties have called for changing the Egyptian Constitution and for democratic and political reforms.

Leaders of these parties issued a statement at a news conference held at the Wafd Party headquarters. The Wafd, Socialist Labor, Socialist Liberal, National Progressive Unionist Grouping, Democratic Union, Ummah, Greens, and Socialist Egyptian parties took part in the news conference.

The statement said that current developments and conditions require a new constitution commensurate with these developments.

Editor Assails Iran's Ambitions in Gulf

NC0607091391 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0637 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jul (MENA)—AKHBAR AL-YAWM Chief Editor Ibrahim Si'dah writes that the sole aim of the war of words the Islamic Republic of Iran is waging against Egypt is to prevent the latter from shouldering its responsibilities toward the fraternal Gulf states, leaving Iran a free hand in its dealings with these small and militarily weak states. In a commentary published today, he says that the Gulf Arabs are fully aware of this. For many years both before and since the Islamic revolution, Iran has wanted to gain the upper hand in the Arab Gulf region. In fact, Iran insists on calling this body of water the "Persian" Gulf and grows indignant whenever the well-known name of Arab is used on a map.

Si'dah stresses that the desire to change the Gulf's identity from Arab to Persian is not confined to questions of names alone; it was one of Iran's most important strategic goals under the shah's regime and remains so under the present Islamic Republic government. Iran's past and present rulers believe that their country has the right to impose its domination and sovereignty over all territory bordering the "Persian" Gulf.

Si'dah goes on to say: The ayatollahs' republic has remained true to the legacy of their predecessors and seeks to preserve their beliefs and possessions. The masters in Tehran removed the corrupt regime of the shah, but they kept that regime's ambitions and vowed to succeed where the corrupt monarchists had failed. They even expanded the scope of these ambitions: The goal of domination is no longer confined to the Gulf region, and they are seeking to extend it to other Arab countries far from its waters. The leading role played by the masters in Tehran in events in Lebanon, Algeria, and Iraq is clear to all.

Si'dah notes that the Gulf Arabs in particular have not forgotten what happened at the end of 1971, when Iranian forces invaded and occupied the three United Arab Emirates islands of Tunb al-Kubra, Tunb al-Sughra, and Abu Musa at the entrance to the Arab Gulf and announced that the islands had been permanently annexed to the Iranian empire. He says that the corrupt regime of the shah was ousted a long time ago and replaced by the pro-Khomeyni ayatollahs, who purport to advocate Islam, love, tolerance, and support for Muslims and defense of their rights in all places and at all times. Nevertheless, the men who espouse such lofty sentiments have never considered returning the usurped land of their Muslim brothers, and the flag of the Islamic Republic of Iran still flies over the three Arab islands.

Comment on Israeli Nuclear Weapons, Arms Control

NC0707054591 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2122 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jul (MENA)—In its editorial tomorrow, AL-AKHBAR writes that the conclusion reached by the U.S. Congress report that Israel may be the only Middle East country with nuclear weapons constitutes an official acknowledgment of this fact, which must be considered when discussing U.S. President George Bush's proposals for regional arms control.

The paper asserts that ignoring Israel's nuclear arsenal raises the possibility that other regional countries will try to produce or otherwise acquire similar weapons themselves at all costs. Israel has the most to lose by such a development, for which it would have only itself to blame.

The paper adds that some people believe that Israel's possession of nuclear arms is the main reason for its foolish and arrogant stand which rejects all regional peace efforts, as it believes it has a decisive deterrent which compels the rest of the region's countries to accept all its wishes and conditions.

The paper goes on to say that Israel's nuclear weapons will not bring it any kind of peace and will not prevent those who have been deprived of their rights from regaining them, no matter how long this takes.

Referring to the meeting of experts from the UN Security Council's permanent members in Geneva today to discuss arms reduction in the Middle East, AL-AKHBAR expresses the hope that the meeting will result in a

serious agreement that will spare mankind the dangers entailed by the Israeli leaders' policy of playing with fire.

Officials Return From Visits to Libya

Prime Minister

NC0807212391 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1930 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jul (MENA)—Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi returned to Cairo this evening from Banghazi following a two-day visit to the Libyan Jamahiriyah, during which he headed the Egyptian delegation to the meetings of the higher joint Egyptian-Libyan committee. The Libyan delegation was headed by Abu-Zayd 'Umar Durdah.

During the committee's meetings, the two sides discussed a number of issues and agreements to strengthen bilateral cooperation.

Foreign Trade Minister

NC0807213091 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1955 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jul (MENA)—Foreign Trade Minister Dr. Yusri Mustafa and members of the Egyptian delegation to the meetings of the joint Libyan-Egyptian committee returned to Cairo at the conclusion of the committee's meetings in Banghazi this evening.

Members of the accompanying media delegation also returned.

Al-Qadhdhafi's Razing of Prison Walls Scorned

NC0907105891 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 5 Jul 91 p1

[Editorial by Jamal Badawi: "The Freedom Prison"]

[Text] The scene was impressive as Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi drove a bulldozer and tore down the walls of the "Cooper" prison in Khartoum, the Sudanese capital. He was accompanied by the Sudanese interior minister, who said that the prison was a relic of imperialism and injustice and therefore must be destroyed.

I tell brother Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and brother Lieutenant General al-Bashir that, when discussing justice and injustice, the issue is not the destruction of prison walls, but the destruction of the great wall that encircles the entire homeland, making it a large prison where the citizen lacks his legitimate rights and does not feel like a free and dignified man.

Real freedom and human dignity are not achieved by destroying prisons built with bricks and cement but by destroying the prisons deep inside the citizen's soul which keep him from feeling secure, and which plant the seeds of anxiety, worry, and fear of the unknown in his heart. He sleeps without knowing what he will find when he wakes, and starts his day without knowing how it will end. His human rights depend on the ruler's whims and can be confiscated at any time.

We Egyptians have tried theatrical ploys similar to the destruction of prison walls as part of a propaganda campaign seeking to make the people believe that the era of injustice has gone forever and that the era of freedom is at hand. In his first days in office, the late President Anwar al-Sadat burned all the secret bugging tapes in the Interior Ministry's courtyard. He then destroyed the walls of the Liman Turrah prison to mark the beginning of the era of freedom, democracy, and supremacy of law. Exactly ten years later, however, President al-Sadat, may God forgive him, withdrew all the freedoms he had granted the people and ordered the reopening of Liman Turrah prison itself to receive Egypt's best leaders, thinkers, writers, and intellectuals. In a Tataric raid by the dawn visitors [secret police], 1,600 Egyptians who dared oppose the regime's policy were detained.

Before al-Sadat, the late President Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir raised the slogan of "Lift your head high, O brother, for the era of despotism is over." Some people believed this slogan, but as soon as they lifted their heads, they were cut down, and the military prison opened its doors to swallow the opposition figures who dared oppose the leader's policies. Some of them lost their lives and were buried under the sands of al-'Abbasiyah, while those who survived returned but with broken spirits. They realized that Egypt had entered the era of dictatorship and despotism, with no end in sight. Their souls were afflicted with the germs of pessimism, indifference, alienation, distrust between ruler and people, and of all the ailments which still plague us to this day.

The Third World citizen watches this farce of destroying prison walls with sarcasm and irony, for he does not see in it the end of injustice and slavery or the beginning of the era of freedom and democracy. The Third World citizen has learned his lessons from the catastrophe that befell democracy at the hands of "patriotic" leaders who inherited power from colonialism and imperialism and became even harsher than the colonialists had been.

Visible illusions aimed at deceiving the people do not constitute real democracy. The democratic ruler comes to power through the people's will—not in a tank that crushes the citizen, suppresses opinions, and turns the homeland into one large prison. Durable freedoms are the ones which the people wrest with their own hands and are not the ruler's gift to give or take at his whim.

Minister Denies Sudanese Citizens' Entry Banned

NC0907082391 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0715 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] Cairo, 9 Jul (MENA)—Interior Minister 'Abd-al-Halim Musa said that Egypt has not banned any Sudanese from entering the country. He added that Egypt told the Sudanese authorities some time ago that there are certain rules governing entry to the country and

that these rules are not aimed against the Sudanese, but have been established for security reasons.

In an interview with AL-AKHBAR published today, the minister said that Egypt has not made any conditions on issuing pre-entry visas to Sudanese nationals. He added that airport authorities ask those coming to Egypt about the purpose of their visit and permit them to enter if it is reasonable.

The minister went on to say that what happened was that a group of Sudanese arrived and said they were tourists but had no money with them. He asked, how could they have been tourists if they had no money?

'Abd-al-Halim Musa said that the Egyptians who were refused entry by the Sudanese authorities at Khartoum airport were employees en route to their jobs at Sudanese businesses. He said there are some people who are encouraging the division between Egypt and Sudan and these people can only be described as extremists, not Muslim fundamentalists.

He stressed that Egypt and Sudan will overcome this crisis because they share durable ties.

Chinese Party Deputy Leader Arrives on Stopover

NC0807195091 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1623 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jul (MENA)—Li Ruihuan, deputy general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party and member of the Standing Committee of the party's Central Committee Politburo, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Cairo this afternoon for a two-day visit to Egypt en route to Senegal. During his stay, he will visit Cairo's prominent archeological sites.

He was received at the airport by members of the Chinese Embassy in Cairo.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi on British Ties, Arab Affairs

JN0507191891 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1745 GMT 5 Jul 91

["Text" of interview with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by Mustafa Bakri in Alexandria, Egypt on 5 July—recorded]

[Text] [Bakri] Brother leader of the Libyan revolution Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, where can the war of words between the Libyan Jamahiriyah and Britain lead, especially after Britain made explicit charges holding the Jamahiriyah responsible for exploding the Pan Am jet? How do you assess this campaign and its dimensions?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] This British campaign [words indistinct] is one of the chapters of official international terrorism, the state terrorism which Britain has persistently practiced against the Jamahiriyah to terrorize it. The talk about the fall of the Pan Am jet is by itself psychological terrorism. Whenever they seek to terrorize Libya [words indistinct], they constantly talk about this plane. Had they been speaking the truth and been serious, they would have reached a conclusion, and this conclusion would have been announced [words indistinct]. But they have not reached any conclusion. They [words indistinct] the evidence of this is that whenever there is a dispute between Britain and Libya, they come up with this card. This has become an exposed [words indistinct] conducted by the United States and Britain against Libya. It is a terrorist policy. From time to time, a similar campaign is conducted against Syria, another liberation country. Britain will lose this battle. It is the country that took the initiative of sending a member of its parliament, and [word indistinct] of the Foreign Office. We agreed to start the dialogue in a bid to improve ties. Instead of receiving this with a positive spirit, they exploited the issue and launched a slander campaign against Libya, because it is a country [passage indistinct].

In the final analysis, Libya does not need ties with Britain. It can dispense with its British ties until doomsday, as I said. But Britain is the party that made the first move, knocked on Libya's door, and demanded a restoration of ties and the start of a dialogue. This story is exposed. The story regarding the plane is exposed. France exposed them. They alleged that France also [words indistinct] the Pan Am plane. The Paris court issued a verdict saying that the talk articulated by the United States and Britain is utter lies that have nothing to substantiate it and that France has neither charged Libya in this regard nor found anything that incriminates Libya in this incident.

[Bakri] You made a statement during your recent visit to Sudan saying that you seek to heal the rift in Egyptian-Sudanese ties. Now that you have held talks with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, is it possible to expect positive results for this endeavor?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] We agreed to draw up a formula for dialogue between Sudan and Egypt under Libya's supervision. As a matter of fact, I was met with a high degree of responsiveness from President Husni Mubarak. He has no ill intentions toward his brothers in the Sudan. On the contrary, his views were identical to those of brother 'Umar al-Bashir with regard to the importance of unity between the two countries, a future strategy for the Nile Valley, and the Zionist dangers posed to the sources of the Nile in the future. I am very grateful for this responsiveness, for the friendly spirit that brother 'Umar al-Bashir and his brothers in Khartoum harbor toward Egypt, and also for their readiness to achieve understanding and investigate any charges. Similarly, I met with cooperation from brother Husni Mubarak, who said that the issue should be tackled in negotiations in which each party would explain its stand at the negotiating table under Libya's supervision. This shows a high sense of responsibility and a desire to overcome the transient

or secondary problems to help realize the strategic objective, which is the attainment of unity between Egypt and Sudan, and Arab unity as well.

[Bakri] What impressions did you gain from your recent visit to Sudan in terms of the new democratic changes in the Sudanese arena, for example?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] The changes in Sudan should be understood. There is a strong blackout on these changes, and I found an unrealistic picture of Sudan in the Arab homeland, the West, and in the world. The portrait of Sudan from inside is different from the portrait drawn outside. Sudan is leading true popular trends. It is the only Arab country that determined the form of its political system as a result of a peace conference that lasted (?more than 100 days) in which all the Sudanese parties participated.

Now, in fact, there is no military or political authority. Sudan today is passing through a real stage of labor pains, awaiting the birth of the popular authority, [word indistinct], and committees. It has now begun forming popular committees.

[Bakri] Let us go back to your efforts to clear the Arab atmosphere. You recently spoke about the need to convene an extraordinary Arab summit to discuss the current Arab situation. What have these efforts achieved? And where have your efforts reached with regard to clearing Palestinian-Egyptian relations?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] The summit has become necessary to close Arab ranks and bypass this stage of fragmentation and bitterness in order to establish Arab union and expedite the amendment of the Arab League Charter. The summit is necessary to amend the charter and present it in its final form, or to begin amending it. There are no real problems now preventing the summit. There are only psychological barriers. The brothers in Kuwait are greatly angered by some brothers. Saudi Arabia is angered by some neighbors and brothers. Iraq no longer constitutes a problem as it was in the past. In the past, we found difficulty in bringing Iraq and Syria together, and this does not exist now. I believe Iraq will agree to attend any summit. It will be represented by its president or any other representative. The summit has become necessary and amending the charter has become a very urgent task. The summit should convene to bypass this stage in order to go forward.

Regarding Palestinian-Egyptian relations, there is in fact no problem. There is no problem [words indistinct] with the PLO and Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] because of his bias toward Saddam Husayn [words indistinct]. In fact, there is no problem between Egypt and the Palestinians.

[Bakri] Brother leader of the revolution: What has been the result of your contacts to halt fighting between the Lebanese Army and Palestinian forces east of Sidon, especially since Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat made a plea for intervention?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] The appeal arrived as I was conferring with President Mubarak in Alexandria. What is happening in southern Lebanon now is really deplorable. We are really surprised. Arab parties should have sat together to devise a formula for control of the south by the Lebanese Army. I do not think any Palestinian opposes Lebanese legitimacy or a reorganization of the Lebanese state. In fact, Libya is not wholly biased toward the Palestinian revolution. Libya has contributed to the arming of the Lebanese Army, not so that it would strike at the Palestinians. By this, Libya has sought to reassert Lebanese legitimacy and end the suffering of the Lebanese. The Lebanese people have had more than their share of suffering from the militias. These militias have not helped a bit—either in terms of bringing about liberation or change. They have caused considerable damage to the Lebanese people. The Palestinians, the Lebanese, and the Syrians should have sat together in order for each side to know where the others stand. Why the exchange of rockets and missiles among Arab brothers? We and the Egyptians will send a joint delegation to see the Lebanese president, brother Hafiz al-Asad, and the Palestinians. We thought that we must supervise and [word indistinct] the Palestinian and Lebanese positions [words indistinct].

[Bakri] Your talks with President Mubarak addressed Gulf security arrangements. What were the most important points you agreed on in this regard?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] [passage indistinct] I do not know who they are counting on. If it is the United States, this is wrong and dangerous. If they will have their country under [word indistinct] occupation, why stand against the Iraqi forces? They have a better case than the American forces. I do not think the brothers in Kuwait have had their country freed of Iraqi forces to be brought under the control of foreign forces. Consequently, I have nothing to say about Gulf security. With Iraq now weakened, there is no longer any need for security arrangements. I would advocate the establishment of an Arab union with the summit conference council becoming an Arab unionist council—joint Arab defense, Arab economic unity. This should eliminate all problems, and no country will aggress against another. There will be an Arab union, joint defense, and the aggressor will be deterred by the union.

Reportage on Visit by Egyptian Minister

Signing Ceremony Reported

LD0807114891 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Excerpts] Al-Bayan al-Awwal [Banghazi], 8 Jul (JANA)—After exchanging documents on the ratification of agreements, the brother secretary of the General People's Committee delivered a speech in which he said: It is a great honor that the meetings of the higher Libyan-Arab-Egyptian joint committee should be accorded the auspices of the brother leader at this

session, during which, a few moments ago, the documents on the ratification of agreements were exchanged. This follows what you and your brother, President Mubarak, said at your meeting in Sidra, when you stressed the need to realize integration between the two countries in all spheres with regard to activities, resources, and capabilities, and to lay down the legal framework that would enable us to reach that objective as a means to a greater and nobler aim—namely, the unity of the two countries on the path of comprehensive Arab unity. He added: Indeed, in implementation of those directives, and with the cooperation and consent of the brothers in the Council of Ministers of brotherly Egypt, we signed the 10 agreements in Cairo, which realized the framework [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

Dr. 'Atif Sidqi, prime minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt, also delivered a speech, in which he said: It is a great honor for me to speak before you, [Al-Qadhdhafi], and it is a great honor that this commitee should be accorded this eminent meeting.

He said: Integration between Libya and Egypt is a historical fact, and we must work to make it a fact of the future, too. He pointed out that last December, and by virtue of you and your brother President Husni Mubarak's guidance, we were able to sign 10 agreements, which we regard as the main structure for integration between sisterly Libya and Arab Egypt. We pledge to God and to you in this true [amin] country that we will not hesitate to adopt any steps required for the completion of the process of integration between Libya and Egypt...the process of integration on the path of comprehensive unity between the members and parts of the great Arab nation [word indistinct]. He said: What you are doing in this sphere will be recorded in history. May God help you succeed and help everyone succeed in completing this process so that all of us in the Arab nation will reach the unity, integration, and coordination in all spheres that you desire, just as we in Egypt also desire this.

Libya-Egypt Committee Minutes Signed

LD0807193791 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1850 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Banghazi, 8 Jul (JANA)—The minutes of the first session of the joint Libyan Arab-Egyptian Higher Committee were signed this evening.

The minutes were signed by the brother secretary of the General People's Committee and, for the Egyptian side, by Dr. 'Atif Sidqi, prime minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Meanwhile, the brother secretary of the General People's Committee for Vocational Training and Egyptian Manpower Minister 'Asim 'Abd-al-Haq Salih signed a program to implement the fourth article of the agreement on transportation, residence, and employment between the Great Jamahiriyah and the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Egyptian Prime Minister Departs

LD0807194391 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Excerpt] Banghazi, 8 Jul (JANA)—Dr. 'Atif Sidqi, prime minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and his accompanying delegation left the Great Jamahiriyah this evening after participating in the first session of the joint Libyan Arab-Egyptian Higher Committee. [passage omitted]

'Arafat Departs Banghazi at End of Visit

LD0807183191 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1812 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Banghazi, 8 Jul (JANA)—Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat left Banghazi this afternoon after concluding his visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Mauritania

28 Jun Police Clash With Unionists Reported

AB2806211091 Paris AFP in French 1942 GMT 28 Jun 91

[Text] Nouakchott, 28 Jun (AFP)—Clashes took place today between police forces and trade unionists who came out in support of the general secretary of the Mauritanian Workers Union (UTM), who was recently dismissed from his post, leaving several wounded on both sides, it was learned from reliable sources in Nouakchott.

Several dozen supporters of Mr. Mohamed Mahmoud Ould Rahdy organized a rally in a training center near the Nouakchott Central Market, said the new UTM acting general secretary, Mr. Mohamed Brahim, alias "Dina." Mr. Brahim blamed these trade unionists for the clashes with security forces because the meeting was unauthorized by the trade union leadership. He denied reports, however, that some vehicles were burned by the trade unionists.

The UTM, which is currently experiencing internal dissension between opposing factions, organized a week ago a two-day general strike which was observed, according to reports, by only a small fraction of workers. The failure of this strike led to Mr. Mahmoud Ould Radhy's suspension. The latter, however, denied being dismissed by the union's leadership.

Morocco

Reports on Signing of First Treaty With Spain

Juan Carlos, Gonzalez Arrive

LD0407203191 Madrid RNE-1 Radio Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Jul 91

[Excerpt] The king and prime minister are now in Rabat. This afternoon Felipe Gonzalez and Moroccan Prime

Minister Azzedine Laraki will sign a treaty of friendship, good-neighborliness, and cooperation between the two countries, a treaty under which Spain will grant credits totaling 125 billion pesetas for Moroccan development, and under which both countries undertake to renounce the use of force to solve possible disputes. Our special correspondent to Rabat, Javier Arenas, reports:

[Arenas] King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, who as expected arrived a few minutes earlier, are now in Rabat. The high-level Spanish delegation, which also includes Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez is now on its way to the Erriad royal palace next to the wall surrounding Rabat, where Hassan II will be the host for a few hours. [passage omitted]

Gonzalez on Treaty

LD0607074791 Rabat MAP in English 1244 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] Rabat, July 5 (MAP)—"Moroccan-Spanish relations are going through a very important phase, a fact testifying to their very positive evolution in the past years", Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez said here Thursday at the end of a short visit to Morocco.

Gonzalez, who had earlier initialled along with Moroccan peer Azeddine Laraki the Moroccan-Spanish treaty of friendship, neighbourliness and cooperation, said at a news conference the treaty constitutes a very large legal framework wherein cooperation will make a big stride. He said, for instance, financial cooperation has doubled in comparison to the previous year and the trend will be maintained in coming years. The treaty, he said further, will give a new impetus not only to investments but also to exchanges in all areas, particularly human and cultural.

Regarding emigration and the enforcement of visa requirements for Moroccan nationals, Gonzalez said Madrid was settling "all the problems accumulated in the past" and was seeking "a coordination" to avoid problems in the future. He said Madrid was ready to initiate a reflection to explore the possibility of defining an accord between the EEC and Morocco on what is generally called "the third generation" of immigrants.

Felipe Gonzalez asserted that the visa was not an obstacle to good relations between Morocco and Spain and announced that Spanish Home Minister Jose Luis Corcuera will visit Morocco on July 6 to finalize the accords concluded between the two countries in immigration matters.

To a question on the Euro-Maghreban gas pipeline and whether the current incidents in Algeria will effect the project, Gonzalez said the incidents will not at all affect the large-scale project binding the two countries.

Gonzalez left Morocco Thursday afternoon.

Details of Treaty Reported

LD0607072591 Rabat MAP in English 1213 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] Rabat, July 5 (MAP)—Morocco and Spain signed here Thursday a treaty of friendship and cooperation. The treaty signed at a ceremony chaired by King Hassan II of Morocco and King Juan Carlos of Spain was initialled by Moroccan and Spanish Prime Ministers Azzedine Laraki and Felipe Gonzalez.

The document, the first ever concluded by Spain with an Arab country, includes a preamble, eight general principles and fourteen articles dealing with various aspects of Moroccan-Spanish cooperation.

Under the general principles of the treaty, the two countries pledge to respect international legality and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, the non-resort to threats or force and peaceful settlement of disputes. The treaty principles renew the two countries' attachment to cooperate for development, to respect human rights and individual fundamental freedoms and to endeavour for the promotion of dialog and understanding between cultures and civilizations.

As to bilateral relations, the two sides commit to establish a framework for political contacts and convened to institutionalise an annual meeting between the two countries' prime ministers and a bi-annual meeting between the two countries' foreign ministers, alternately in Morocco and in Spain, in addition to regular meetings between senior officials from various ministerial departments. Contacts and dialog will be equally promoted between the two countries' parliaments, professional organizations, university, scientific and cultural institutions as well as between the private sectors.

Regarding economic and financial cooperation, the two governments pledge to encourage and consolidate contacts between the two countries' production sectors and services, to carry out joint investment projects and to promote infrastructure projects of common interest in areas of energy, transport and communication.

Besides cooperation in matters of defense, the treaty provides for the promotion of cooperation in maritime fisheries, farm produce industry, environment protection, health, tourism, energy, vocational training, further cooperation in the Strait of Gibraltar area through the promotion of studies and projects in the areas of physiography, oceanography and meteorology with a view to completing the Morocco-Spain fixed link across the Strait.

The treaty also renews the two countries' commitment to promote cultural cooperation through the exchange of students, professors and academics, exchange of pedagogic and scientific documents, consolidation of inter-university relations and the granting of scholarships. It equally provides for further cooperation in audio-visual matters (radio, TV, cinema and others). The two sides agreed to grant a particular attention to the teaching of

Arabic and Arab civilization in Spain and to that of Spanish and Spanish civilization in Morocco and to the promotion of their respective cultural centers' activities.

As to juridical cooperation, the two parties agreed to upgrade cooperation in international struggle against terrorism, organized crime and narcotic trafficking.

In an address during the signing ceremony, King Hassan II said: "The convention we are signing today ... is conceived to be and remain an ideal framework, in space and time, for our cooperation and collaboration".

"We are bound by a common history that greatly contributed to modern civilization. This contribution enabled the world to come out of darkness and to start the deep evolution that led it through centuries to the technology and scientific revolution we are living today", the sovereign said, adding that the present treaty is "the appropriate instrument that is likely to enable our two countries, through the joining of efforts and mutual assistance, to fully benefit from the current progress and huge advance of human knowledge".

King Hassan II stressed the importance of the treaty that encompasses the political, social, educational and cultural sectors the upgrading bilateral cooperation, saying that the Moroccan side will spare no effort to implement the treaty and make it reach its goals. Official departments will extend to the two countries' entrepreneurs and social-economic partners all necessary assistance so that they carry out their projects in the best possible conditions, King Hassan II said, pointing out further that "thus, a new era of understanding and cooperation will be established".

King Juan Carlos of Spain for his part underlined in an address on the occasion, the "historical impact" of the treaty that will bolster "the longstanding relations" existing between the two countries and that testifies to "the shared determination of our governments and peoples to make a decisive stride on the path of the new era opening up before us, an era wherein international cooperation will be the priority instrument to reach peoples' social development and to definitively consecrate fundamental rights and freedom".

"Morocco and Spain both actively participate in various regional integration processes that are so closely linked. The ties to be established between our two countries thanks to this treaty are part of this relationship and will stand a symbol for future relations between the regional organizations we belong to", King Juan Carlos said.

King Juan Carlos hailed the significant cooperation existing between the two countries regarding the projected fixed link across the Strait of Gibraltar and other industrial projects of no less strategic importance and surveyed the three main aspects of the treaty which defines the principles on which bilateral relations must be based, sets the periodicity of high ranking meetings and identifies the various sectors of cooperation.

As to interdependence between the two countries, King Juan Carlos said the recent Gulf crisis had again highlighted this interdependence. "Our governments, even if with slight differences, deemed it necessary to defend the principles of international legality and exact the respect of law. Our bileratal relations drew a positive lesson from this painful conflict. Our societies perceived its proximity and felt the dire need to establish a new cooperation framework.

"Morocco and Spain could not be separated in view of tragic events, on the contrary these events prompted a new Mediterranean dynamics", the Spanish sovereign said.

Spanish Minister in Visa Talks at Ceuta

LD0707093791 Madrid TVE Internacional Television in Spanish 1900 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] Minister of the Interior Jose Luis Corcuera went to Tangier this morning for an official visit. He had talks with his Moroccan opposite number on matters connected with the processing of visas for Moroccans who live or work in Spain. This afternoon Corcuera and Moroccan Minister Driss Basri visited the Spanish-Moroccan border posts between Ceuta and the Alawite kingdom. This is the the first time that a senior Moroccan official has gone to the line separating the Spanish town from Morocco. After this joint inspection, the Spanish minister will be holding a press conference in Tangier in a few minutes before returning to Madrid tonight.

Madrid Sees Recognition of Sovereignty

LD0707094291 Madrid RNE-1 Radio Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] We remain with domestic news to echo the implicit recognition of Spanish sovereignty over Ceuta expressed by the Moroccan authorities in the last 24 hours. For the first time a minister in Hassan II's government has visited the Spanish town on a working visit, accompanying Spanish Minister of the Interior Jose Luis Corcuera, who was in the neighboring country to speed up the processing of visas of Moroccans wishing to enter Spain. From Rabat, EFE correspondent Alberto Masagosa has details.

[Masagosa] This afternoon for the first time a Moroccan minister paid a working visit to Ceuta. In the company of his Spanish counterpart Jose Luis Corcuera, Moroccan Interior Minister Driss Basri spent a few minutes in the Spanish town this afternoon. The gesture is precisely an implicit recognition by Morocco of Spanish sovereignty. As Corcuera subsequently said at a press conference, the current state of bilateral relations is so excellent that now there is no difficulty that cannot be resolved.

Shortly after making these statements the Spanish minister was to fly back to Madrid from where he had left this morning for a visit to the north of Morocco lasting *just a matter of hours.*

This significant visit closes the circle, according to an expression from diplomatic circles in Rabat. In effect just 48 hours earlier here in this capital King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez attended the solemn signing of the treaty of friendship, good-neighborliness and cooperation between Spain and Morocco. One of the main principles contained in this text is the undertaking by both parties to resolve peacefully the differences between the two countries, and up to now the main difference was precisely the Moroccan claim to Ceuta and Melilla.

Romanian President Arrives on Working Visit

LD0507222791 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Excerpts] Romanian President Ion Iliescu arrived in Rabat this afternoon on a working visit to Morocco. [passage omitted]

The Romanian President is accompanied in his visit to Morocco by an important delegation including in particular the minister of trade and tourism, the secretary of state at the Foreign Ministry, and a number of personalities. [passage omitted]

King Receives Romanian President

LD0707074291 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Excerpt] Yesterday at the Royal Court, His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, received Romanian President Ion Iliescu, who is paying a friendly and working visit to Morocco. The meeting was attended by Abdallatif Filali, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, and Teodor Milescanu, Romanian secretary of state for foreign affairs. [passage omitted]

Concludes Visit, Departs

LD0707163891 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Excerpt] Romanian President Ion Iliescu left Morocco this afternoon following a working and friendly visit he paid to our country. At the Rabat-Sale airport lounge he made a press statement in which he described his meeting with His Majesty King Hassan II as constructive and positive. A brotherly atmosphere prevailed in his talks with his majesty the Moroccan monarch which confirmed the two countries' mutual desire to develop Moroccan-Romanian relations, he said. He added that a framework within which these relations could be placed was discussed, particularly the possibility of drafting a treaty for cooperation and friendship between the two countries. The Romanian president underlined Morocco's significance to Romania in terms of developing her relations regionally and with the Arab world, and he said that Romania can play the same role in developing Morocco's relations with the Balkan countries. [passage omitted]

Sudan

Al-Bashir—U.S. Ties 'Developing Positively'

EA0707135991 Khartoum SUNA in French 0940 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] Khartoum, 4 July (SUNA)—General 'Umar al-Bashir, the National Salvation Revolution Command Council [NSRCC] chairman, has confirmed that Sudanese-U.S. relations are currently developing positively, particularly following the release of political detainees. In an interview for London Radio on 3 July, the NSRCC chairman stressed that there are no human rights violations in the country. Gen. al-Bashir also confirmed that Sudan is not suffering from external isolation, but rather that there has been a cooling of Sudan's relations with some Arab countries.

Statement Issued on Libyan Integration Seminar

LD0107172691 Tripoli JANA in English 1427 GMT 1 Jul 91

[Text] Khartoum, 1 al-Nasir [July], ARAB MAGHREB UNION POOL—the activities of the Arab Libyan Sudanese integration seminar, held in the Friendship Hall, Khartoum, between 27-30 of Al-Sayf [June] were concluded yesterday.

A number of delegation chiefs that participated in the seminar, addressed the concluding session, commending the integration between the Great Jamahiriyah and Sudan, as a step towards realising a complimentary unity between the two sisterly countries. The speakers praised highly through their speeches the endeavours of the leader of the revolution for the sake of uniting the Arab nation.

The seminar released a final statement indicating that the seminar tackled the study and analysis of the following axes:

—The strategic demensions of integration.
—Legal study of the integration documents.
—The unity of legislations.
—Information and its role in integration and unity.
—The people's authority in the jamahiri system.
—Aspects of the Arab unity project across the two currents nationalistic and Islamic.
—Assessment of the integration experience.
—Arab unity in the wake of the Gulf war.

The statement said that through the fruitful serious dialogue and discussion, that lasted 3 consecutive days, the members participating in the seminar pay tribute to the sincere unionist endeavour deployed by the leader of

the revolution for almost a quarter of a century of struggle. The participants pay tribute to the faithful response of Lt. General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, the chairman of the Revolution Command Council in Sudan, for the unity call.

The statement said that the participants arrived at the following conclusions:

First. Integration is a significant step towards total Arab unity. The participants confirmed the importance of massive national action, in abolishing the borders and barriers, allowing the freedom of movement, residence, possession [words indistinct] actions are basic for the achievement of total Arab unity from the ocean to the Gulf, in addition to the consecration of all information media to (?upgrade the happiness) of Arab people and renewing the national enlightenment.

Second. Calling upon sisterly Egypt to join the program of Arab Libyan Sudanese integration as a step towards total integration between the three countries.

Third. The seminar participants through their analysis of the freedom and democracy crisis prevailing throughout the whole world, and reviewing the causes that led to the failure of the previous unionist efforts, the participants pay tribute to the selection of the Sudanese people of the direct people's authority, through people's congresses and people's committees.

They confirm that the final solution of the freedom and democracy problem in the Arab homeland and throughout the (?whole) world, lies in the people's authority, through direct people's democracy where all the people of a nation practice their right in the decision making.

Four. The participants of the seminar through their analysis of the international developments, on the universal [words indistinct] level, and in the shadow of international blocks, confirm that there is no salvation for the Arab nation except through total unity and self dependence on the available material and human potentials. They call upon all the masses of the Arab nation and their lively forces, to consecrate all potentials for actions aiming at Arab unity and giving it the priority in the circle of their meetings.

Five. The seminar participants address the call for all elites and intelligentsia of the Arab nation and their political forces to deepen the dialogue amongst them in the framework of the Arab democratic revolutionary dialogue forum.

Six. The seminar participants reached several recommendations and constructive considerations that will be submitted to the high corps of integration.

Throughout the seminar around 200 politicians, thinkers and elites from Great Jamahiriyah, Sudan, Egypt, Syria, Palestine, Morocco, Yemen, Mauritania, Somalia and Lebanon took part.

Tunisia

Ben Ali Receives Zimbabwe's Mugabe

LD0807231491 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Excerpts] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali held private talks at the Republican Palace in Carthage this morning with Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, who has been on an official visit to Tunisia since yesterday. The presidential spokesman said that in this first discussion his excellency the president reiterated his welcome to President Mugabe and Tunisia's pleasure at receiving such an experienced statesman. [passage omitted]

The official spokesman added that the two presidents reviewed the Palestinian issue. Presidency Ben Ali stated that that question remains the most complex issue. Stability and security in the Middle East are conditional upon the implementation of international legitimacy in such a way as to lead to a lasting, comprehensive, and just solution to the issues of the region, including the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent state of their own on their territory, he declared. [passage omitted]

Mugabe on Palestinian 'Lack of Progress'

MB0907083791 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0759 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] Tunis July 9 SAPA—President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe on Monday expressed disappointment at the lack of progress on solving the Palestinian problem.

Zimbabwe's national ZIANA news agency reports that he was speaking at a banquet hosted for him by Tunisian President Ben Ali.

Mr Mugabe said hopes for an early resolution of the crisis had been raised by the new flexibility by the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) on the right to existence of the Jewish state, and promises made by various sides during the Gulf crisis.

"We also felt that the enhanced prestige of the United Nations would facilitate the holding of an international peace conference on the Middle East under the auspices of that organisation," he said.

The president said that for a long time now, the Non-Aligned Movement had been calling for the holding of such a conference which, he said, was the only just and lasting solution to the Middle East conflict.

"Zimbabwe still holds that view and we call on those that are at present obstructing the search for peace in the region to desist from doing so."

Mugabe had earlier in the evening held a meeting with PLO President Yasir 'Arafat, whose organisation has its headquarters in Tunisia.

He said Zimbabwe welcomed the agreement reached between the government of Angola and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], adding that nothing should be allowed to derail the peace process there.

"As its token of support for the Angolan people, Zimbabwe has contributed 24 personnel to the United Nations ceasefire verification team in Angola, 15 army officers and nine policemen," he said.

Mr Mugabe said there had been a lull in the peace process in Mozambique and that the carnage in that country had been allowed to continue.

"Zimbabwe has already shown its meticulous adherence to the already partial ceasefire agreed last December. It will spare no effort in assisting attempts to bring peace to that country.

"The heroic people of Mozambique have suffered enough and all efforts should be made to bring peace to their tortured country so that progress of socio-economic development in the country can succeed," he said.

On the situation in South Africa, President Mugabe said the question was not one of doubting President F.W. de Klerk's courage in removing the pillars of apartheid, but was on insisting on the total eradication of apartheid and the establishment of a democratic society.

He said African countries should strive to increase cooperation in all spheres and to encourage the development of meaningful and mutually beneficial economic ties.

Soviet Deputy Minister Briefs Premier on Talks

LD0207174491 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 2 Jul 91

[Text] At the government palace in Casbah this morning, Prime Minister Hamed Karoui received Konstantin Fomishenko, Soviet deputy minister of foreign economic relations, who later described his meeting with the prime minister as important and fruitful. He added that he briefed Mr. Karoui on the results of the permanent Tunisian-Soviet Joint Committee for Economic, Scientific, Technical, and Commercial Cooperation held in Tunis last week.

The Soviet guest said that the meeting enabled them to review the progress of bilateral cooperation which, he said, will develop rapidly. He also stressed that the two sides discussed ways of consolidating this cooperation in all fields and the possiblity of diversifying the categories of products in exchanges between the two countries.

Mr. Fomishenko pointed out that the meeting also covered ways of developing cooperation in the health and higher education sectors and the possibility of setting up mixed companies.

Cultural Cooperation Agreement With USSR

LD0607085791 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2300 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] A program of cultural cooperation for the period 1992-94 was signed today between Tunisia and the Soviet Union at the end of the meeting of the Tunisian-Soviet Joint Cultural Committee. According to the minutes of the committee's meeting, this program stipulates that a number of Soviet scholarships be allocated to Tunisian students and cadres, in addition to the participation of the Soviet Union in cultural activities in Tunisia.

This program also opens wide prospects for cooperation in the field of information, especially between TAP and TASS, and also in the health and youth sectors.

Western Sahara

Polisario Names New Government

LD0507192791 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] The Sahraoui Information Ministry has stated that the Sahraoui presidency today announced the composition of a new government. The new government, led by Mahfoud Ali Beiba, includes 10 ministers, among whom is Mohamed Salim Ould Salek as foreign minister and Malainine Seddik as the secretary-general at the presidency.

The prime minister and some of his ministers will undertake other coordinating duties at the National Secretariat of the Sahraoui Council, in addition to the ministerial duties.

On the occassion, the Polisario [Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia El Hamra and Rio de Oro] general secretariat has called for further solidarity for the practical implementation of the resolutions of the eighth congress.

MAP Claims 'Deep Dissensions'

LD0607081991 Rabat MAP in English 1257 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] Madrid, July 5 (MAP)—The deep dissensions that have been tearing apart the Polisario well before the violent demonstrations of October 1988 were spread out again during the last congress of the mercenaries, say the rare journalists who were authorized to attend the meeting.

Delegates from a number of tribes, especialy Oulad Dlim and Oulad Tidrarine, say the same sources, have actually

protested publicly over the formation of the so-called 'National Secretariat', whose members were designated rather than elected, and left the meeting rooms to show their discontent.

The anti-democratic processes of the tiny group which monopolises the directorate of the Polisario and the exacerbated passions of tribalism are signs which, when added to the plight of the sequestered population in Tindouf, point to an explosive situation within the puppet movement's ranks.

The discontent is even prevailing within the military, all the more so since they have been in a demobilization state since the completion of the defence walls in the Saharan provinces.

Kuwait

Defense Minister Says Saddam Remains Danger

LD0507151691 London KUNA in Arabic 1123 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] Kuwait, 5 Jul (KUNA)—Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh 'Ali Sabah al-Salim warned in a statement published here today that Saddam Husayn continues to be a danger to Kuwait and to the region, and he denied at the same time the existence of any new Iraqi violations of the Kuwaiti borders. He said in his statements to SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI that the presence of Saddam at the head of the Iraqi regime must threaten Kuwait and the region in general, and pointed out that (reports of) Kuwaiti border violations are "untrue". He explained that there are "simple (acts) of opening fire which do not threaten danger. The Iraqis, however, continue to cause trouble as individuals and in an unorganized manner".

He expressed the belief that Iraq does not have the power now, but one should not treat this lightly. He said that strength lies not in arms but in numbers, and this is what happened in the invasion of Kuwait. He explained that "many people blame the Kuwaiti armed forces, and I say that they should not be blamed, because no matter how much they had done, numerical superiority defeats courage". The Kuwaiti official disclosed that Iraq is not "the only one to threaten violent acts against Kuwait", and explained that "there are two Arab sides" which have threatened Kuwait and adopted resolutions at their meetings to hit at Kuwaiti interests at home and abroad.

Shaykh 'Ali Sabah al-Salim warned of the "fifth column in Kuwait," and said that "the pressures resulting from the weakening of the cohesion of Kuwaiti society gave a strong voice to the enemies of Kuwait, whether the Iraqi regime or other regimes". He added that these "enemies attack Kuwait with actions that harm its reputation, such as the call that we persecute the Palestinians and others, and cast doubt upon the Kuwaiti ability to administer the affairs of the country". He regrets the existence of some citizens who spread this and said this "is the biggest danger to Kuwait; to cast doubts on the intentions, not by actions, and if the casting of doubts is an intention, the Iraqi regime will continue to exist in Kuwait until this doubt comes to an end".

The Kuwaiti minister also said that the Army is ready to repulse any aggression against Kuwaiti sovereignty. This does not mean that it will succeed in repulsing this aggression. He explained that it is a mistake to "say that the Kuwaiti Army could have confronted Iraq following its attack on Kuwait". He pointed out that the decision of his highness the amir "not to deploy the Kuwaiti forces to confront Iraq had been a wise one", and stressed that had that decision been made, Kuwait would now be a barren land that no one could enter because of the existence of explosive chemicals, and Kuwait would have been totally destroyed".

The Kuwaiti minister said that meetings between the member countries of the Damascus agreement will be held in a week to discuss the Charter and give it the final details.

He disclosed that the Charter will give the eight countries a free hand in holding eight-party agreements. As regards the presence of Egyptian and Syrian forces in Kuwait alongside the Gulf forces, an agreement was concluded to that effect during a recent visit to Egypt and Syria.

Furthermore, the minister stressed in his interview that the Iraqi regime is still dodging the issue of the release of Kuwaiti detainees. He said that "we have tried all the ways and means with the regime in Iraq; unfortunately this regime is deceptive, treacherous, and cannot be trusted at all".

He praised the efforts of the Red Cross for the release of POWs and said that it is undertaking great actions, so much so that it published an announcement in the Iraqi press calling on any Kuwaiti in Iraq to register his name at the office of the Red Cross in Iraq.

Ministry Postpones Damascus Declaration Meeting

LD0807143291 London KUNA in Arabic 1330 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Kuwait, 8 July (KUNA)—A responsible source at the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry has announced the postponement to 15 July of the meeting of the foreign ministers of the states which signed the Damascus Declaration. The source told KUNA that the decision to postpone the meeting, due to be held in Kuwait, "was made after contacts were held between the foreign ministers of the member- states of the declaration to allow further examination of some proposals dealing with the consolidation and embodiment of the objectives and principles stipulated by the declaration, and to fulfill the aspirations of these states for the best formula for joint Arab action".

The signers of the Damascus Declaration, which was established after the liberation of Kuwait, are the six Gulf Cooperation Council's member states, Egypt and Syria.

Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Salim al-Sabah, has praised the Damascus Declaration, describing it as part of Arab solidarity and as completing the Arab League Charter and the Joint Arab Defense Agreement.

In a press interview published here today, Shaykh Salim al-Sabah rejected the existence of any contradiction between the declaration and the Arab League Charter, stressing that it will be a model to be followed in the Arab world.

Defense Minister on Nationalities in Army

PM0807155691 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 5 Jul 91 p 3

[Interview with Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh 'Ali Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah by Madi al-Khamis in Kuwait; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Khamis] The Kuwaiti Army includes many people from the "unspecified nationality" category. Events have demonstrated the seriousness of the problem of relying on individuals whose loyalty to the homeland has not been ascertained. Does the defense minister have an opinion as to how the problem could be solved?

[Al-Sabah] The problem of people "of unspecified nationality" is quite an important one. These are people who came to Kuwait a long time ago, and some of them have served Kuwait and the Arab cause in general. Some fought in Egypt and others fought in Syria. So we should not forget them, particularly as some of them have even fought alongside the Kuwaiti Army against the Iraqi invaders or participated in the Kuwaiti resistance. Some others played a negative role, such as those who left Kuwait and did not join the Kuwaiti Armed Forces abroad, or those who remained in Kuwait but did not play any significant role.

There is yet another category, namely, those who collaborated with the Iraqis. We are not talking about them, because their acts speak for themselves. What we are saying is that there are people of "unspecified nationality" in the Kuwaiti Army. Their rights in the Kuwaiti Armed Forces are the same as any Kuwaiti's, and they are treated like Kuwaitis. We have even gone further than that. There is a plan to honor them by granting them Kuwaiti citizenship, generally speaking. I wish to mention in particular the military personnel working for the Defense Ministry, not all military personnel. Those who have proved their loyalty to Kuwait will be given Kuwaiti citizenship. We are studying this matter.

Furthermore, in the next few days, we will receive a new group of people of "unspecified nationality" who were once in Kuwait but then left it and did good deeds by either cooperating with the Kuwaiti resistance or seeking to join the Kuwaiti Armed Forces, and who were not accepted because of our limited resources at the time. Kuwait will not allow everyone to return, but most of them will be back. Those in the military who collaborated with the enemy will be court martialed, because collusion with the enemy is treason against the state, and that is punishable by death under the law.

[Al-Khamis] Have you arrested any military personnel who collaborated with the occupation forces?

[Al-Sabah] We have captured some groups which collaborated with the occupation authorities. They will be held until their interrogation is completed. Those proven guilty will be punished, and those against whom there is no evidence to substantiate the charges will be released, but they will all be discharged from military service. [passage omitted]

[Al-Khamis] Will Kuwaiti women have a role in the military sector?

[Al-Sabah] We have asked young Kuwaiti men and women to join the military sector. A large number of young Kuwaiti women have come forward, exceeding the number of young Kuwaiti men.

The way will be open to women. They will be employed in the Army as military personnel, but without a salary for the time being. After a certain period of time—which could be three to six months, during which they will gradually be given military training—the necessary arrangements will be made. We also need Kuwaiti society to accept this.

[Al-Khamis] What is Iran's expected role in the security arrangements intended for the region?

[Al-Sabah] As a major neighbor, Iran shares the Gulf with us and it must have a role in maintaining Gulf security and an effective role in the general security of the region. Relations between the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] states and Iran must be strengthened in the interest of these states' security.

[Al-Khamis] Will the allied (Western) forces be asked to remain in the region permanently? What will the situation be? Will that be done through facilities or the establishment of bases?

[Al-Sabah] Naturally, as I have said in the past, Kuwait needs the assistance of its Gulf and Arab brothers and of its friends. There are security arrangements between us and our friends to maintain peace in the Gulf region. As regards facilities or bases, this has been discussed with friendly states. At present we are studying the issue of comprehensive security for Kuwait and the Gulf region. [passage omitted]

[Al-Khamis] When will compulsory conscription be reintroduced? Have there been any new laws in this connection?

[Al-Sabah] We are presently reviewing the compulsory conscription law. I do not wish to anticipate events and say what changes and omissions are going to be made in that law, because it still has not been submitted to the authorities responsible. All I can say is that it will be reconsidered with a view to making it more effective and more serious.

[Al-Khamis] Are there any deals for the purchase of new arms, and, if so, from what states?

[Al-Sabah] We began purchasing arms when the government was in al-Ta'if, and the purchases were from various states in both the Western camp and the Eastern camp. The purchase of arms continues. Naturally, the purchases now will not the same as in past years, because arms are now viewed from a highly technological angle.

Accordingly, all our future arms will, God willing, be of high technological standard. A large budget had been allocated for that. [passage omitted]

[Al-Khamis] After the wanton aggression against Kuwait, a large number of Kuwaitis volunteered to join the Army and continued to do so even after liberation. Will they be given any rewards, and will they remain in the Army?

[Al-Sabah] Many of our Kuwaiti sons volunteered and took courses in the GCC states and in the friendly states. They joined the Kuwaiti Army in Saudi Arabia and participated in Kuwait's liberation. That is not the kind of effort for which you would seek a reward. Their reward is their country's liberation. That does not mean that we will not offer a reward. The army law provides for allowances (they are called "front allowances") for some of our young Kuwaiti men who are still doing their voluntary work. Many Kuwaiti youths who entered Kuwait with the Kuwaiti Army have now returned to their jobs and private businesses. For those wishing to remain in the Kuwaiti Army, the door is open, there is no objection. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Discusses Arab Issues

NC0807195791 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 6 Jul 91 p 5

[Interview with Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah by Sana' al-Sa'id in Kuwait; date not given]

[Text] [Al-Sa'id] Do you trust the United States, which has deceived the world by what it has said about a new world order it is leading according to special criteria designed to serve Israel's interests?

[Al-Sabah] The United States has actually proved that it is serious regarding the liberation of Kuwait. The U.S. role has contributed to the liberation of my country. Generally speaking, policy changes from time to time to suit the interests of states. But in political science there is one thing which remains unchangeable—that is the continuation of relations and common interests.

[Al-Sa'id] But is there indeed a new world order which we can go along with?

[Al-Sabah] It is difficult to say that there is a firm order or principles for international events. Man is not a programed computer that does not change. It is difficult to predict human behavior, and events and circumstances change from time to time. A person may make decisions which he soon may change if they prove wrong or deficient. This is because the developments which made it necessary to adopt such decisions at a certain time have changed, making such a decision invalid. Therefore, it is difficult to say that there is a firm basis for a world order.

[Al-Sa'id] Amid the developments that are taking place today, I wonder: Can Israel have a role in the area's security in the long term?

[Al-Sabah] This is a military and political strategy. But I say that if Israel wants to stay in the area and live in security, it must grant the Palestinians their full rights to their land and express their views as people who live in the area. The Palestinians should have their own entity and right to self-determination.

[Al-Sa'id] In light of the meeting which will be held next Tuesday in Kuwait by the Damascus Declaration countries, I ask: What are your views on the Declaration, especially as it was said that it was fluid and had no legal, material, or moral value? The delay in the Gulf states' implementation of this declaration is the best proof. Meetings by various committees on the level of foreign, defense, and economic ministers were supposed to have been held, but this has not happened.

[Al-Sabah] The Arab people appear at times to be terribly emotional. Therefore, when the Damascus Declaration was made, the people expected that the rifle would be carried and the gun aimed. I say that such matters require patience, study, evaluation, modification, and correction until we achieve perfection. We must do this to ensure their continuity and achieve the noble aims for which the Damascus Declaration was created. The aim of this declaration is continuity and success. Therefore, we must tackle matters with patience and scientific study to succeed. The objective has been achieved, and the purpose has been established. What are the means to maintain them? Study, and avoiding haste. A meeting of the eight Damascus Declaration states will be held in Kuwait next Tuesday to consolidate these principles and draw up the sound basis for implementing the Declaration.

[Al-Sa'id] Do you agree or disagree that Kuwait prefers bilateral relations with the United States to a long-term U.S. military presence, even if no ground forces are deployed?

[Al-Sabah] Regarding the conclusion of agreements with the great powers, this has become internationally acknowledged and accepted. It is not correct to keep referring to so-called imperialism. All large and small states in the world have distinctive relations with other states.

For example, Britain, which is a great power that took part in the liberation of my country, has special relations with the United States. There are U.S. bases in Britain. The question is not one of imperialism or the like, but a strengthening of relations. I emphasize that no state will have military bases in Kuwait, but there will be understanding between us and the great powers.

Your question reminds me of the year 1961, when Qasim tried to attack Kuwait. That time there was no Peninsula shield, or the Gulf Cooperation Council, or

the Damascus Declaration, or anything else. Nevertheless, the brother Saudis hastened to help us. Brothers from other Arab states, including Egypt, also hastened to help us repel this attempt. This means that their action was based on human principles in which all believed. In the operation to liberate Kuwait, there were no agreements between Kuwait and the United States, Britain, France, Italy, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and our Arab brothers. There were no agreements, but they came to uphold right and justice. Today, agreements with these states have become a popular Kuwaiti demand, especially since they are based on a concept which says that we must have good relations with others.

[Al-Sa'id] Dosn't the principle of dependence on the United States in security issues conflict with the Damascus Declaration?

[Al-Sabah] There is no conflict at all. The Damascus Declaration is an indication that Kuwait wants to benefit maximally from its capabilities and the capabilities of its brothers in the security field. The fact that the Americans themselves blessed this step when it was taken and when the declaration was signed is proof there is no contradiction. At the same time, the Damascus Declaration does not prevent me from having special relations with the Western world, with the knowledge of the Arab brothers. Our relations with the Western states are similar to Egypt's relations with the West. Egypt is a member of the Damascus Declaration.

[Al-Sa'id] Can this be followed by the stockpiling of weapons in Kuwait?

[Al-Sabah] Yes, if we find that the national interest requires this.

[Al-Sa'id] One of the problems of the Arab world is that the security concern is sometimes exaggerated. Do you agree with this?

[Al-Sabah] If you ask a security man, he will say that security comes before anything else. I agree with this view and principle. Security is a basic element of life. We must work to safeguard it and consolidate with various means. Therefore, it is indeed something to which we must pay full attention, and it is not an exaggerated matter.

[Al-Sa'id] Iran is moving toward becoming a major economic and military power in the region. It is rebuilding its Air Force and preparing itself to become the second-largest oil-producing country, after Saudi Arabia. I ask: Does this not worry you?

[Al-Sabah] Naturally this does not worry us at all, because we are an oil-exporting country and the international market absorbs what is exported by Kuwait and others. The better the economic situation in Iran is, the better is the opportunity for more stability there, and the same with us. The stronger our economy is, the more this helps to support and maintain stability. Thus there will be comprehensive stability in the region. What concerns us in the region is to preserve this stability more at the base rather than at the summit.

[Al-Sa'id] But after what happened in the region and the military defeat of Iraq, there are some who fear Iran may have the upper hand in the region.

[Al-Sabah] No. No party here will have the upper hand over anything. Even in Kuwait there will be nothing of the sort. There are basic principles in the region in which everyone believes. They can be summarized as raising our peoples' standards, ensuring their prosperity, and achieving political, economic, and security stability in the region. This is what all the region's parties are working for. Through the cooperation of all parties, these goals will be accomplished, God willing.

[Al-Sa'id] There have been gestures by some concerning Iran's participation in the Arab security arrangements. Some commented by asking: Will the United States agree to giving Iran any status in Arab security arrangements in the region?

[Al-Sabah] This is an affair of the Gulf people, not an American one. Iran is a state in the region, the existence of which we do not deny. Iran has its weight and is a Muslim and friendly neighbor with which we deal with mutual respect and non-intervention in each other's affairs.

[Al-Sa'id] This means that you are not fearful Iran may represent a danger and a threat to the Gulf states.

[Al-Sabah] I do not think so. Iran has had an experience which proved to it that cooperation is the basis for strength. Therefore, I believe that the brothers in Iran are fully aware of and have understood this fact. The dialogue is continuing with them as an important Muslim neighbor. Thus, we do not see any signs of threat to Iran or from it.

[Al-Sa'id] The stockpiling of weapons in Israel and the large U.S. supply of these weapons to it are evidence of the United States' ambivalent measures. Bush's plan for arms limitations should have been achieved in a balanced way.

[Al-Sabah] As it appears, the world is now proceeding toward the destruction of lethal, assault, and mass-destruction weapons. Once the effective implementation of this process has begun—especially since it had actually been implemented in Europe and is now being carried out in other regions—there will be an international position against the presence of such weapons all over the world, including Israel. The call then will be addressed on the basis that measures banning these weapons apply to Israel the same as they apply to any Arab country. There must not be an exception or preferential treatment.

[Al-Sa'id] This means that you support Egypt's request to the United States that the ban on mass-destruction weapons apply to Israel just as it applies to any Arab

state, especially as the United States is giving the impression that Israeli nuclear weapons are excluded from the ban as a permanent guarantee for Israel's security and to ensure its qualitative superiority over the Arab States?

[Al-Sabah] Yes, we completely support Egypt's view, which advocates the principle of equal treatment. What applies to this country should apply to the other.

[Al-Sa'id] What is your assessment of the Syrian-Lebanese treaty, which is viewed by Israel—in an attempt to interfere in Lebanon—as a plan that enables Syria to dominate Lebanon and impose its hegemony on it?

[Al-Sabah] If Israel criticizes the treaty, this means that the treaty is good. This is why Israel views it as being opposed to its interests. This means that the treaty is an element of strengthening for the Arabs and for the two fraternal neighboring states. Therefore, I say that what the Lebanese and Syrian peoples have accepted is acceptable to us as well. The treaty is a pillar of support for fraternal Arab relations.

[Al-Sa'id] Some are maliciously saying that some companies from Israel have secured contracts for reconstruction in Kuwait.

[Al-Sabah] It is a shame for any Arab to think this. This is a simple lie. We must be careful about those who try to make such malicious claims.

[Al-Sa'id] It has been said that Kuwait was one of the first to hasten lifting the boycott on companies dealing with Israel, as a result of U.S. pressure.

[Al-Sabah] Kuwait does not submit to pressure from anyone. Kuwait is implementing the boycott rules. If the boycott bureau, of which we are members, ends the boycott on any company, we implement its decision. Consequently, we ended the boycott of Pepsi Cola after the boycott bureau in Damascus ended it. The same happened with regard to the Ford company. The boycott, I am afraid to say, is not applied in some Arab states. We adhere to the boycott rules. The boycott was lifted on companies about which a decision was made by the boycott bureau.

[Al-Sa'id] Some have criticized the Gulf states, including Kuwait, for the statement in which you noted the possibility of participating in a peace conference as observers. It was said that this signalled the beginning of your recognition of Israel.

[Al-Sabah] Do not give the statement implications which it does not contain. We issued the statement to help in the convening of a peace conference and remove obstacles to it. This does not at all mean recognition of Israel or reconciliation with it.

[Al-Sa'id] With the continued lukewarm relations between Kuwait and some Arab states, I ask—as part of the campaign to clear the Arab atmosphere—what are the frameworks within which Kuwait can work to contribute to the clearing of this atmosphere?

[Al-Sabah] Generally speaking, the lukewarmness which exists in the relations with some Arab states does not apply to the peoples. We see to it that no people should be the victim of such lukewarmness in relations. At the same time, we are trying to strengthen the role of the Arab League to become more effective and for its meetings to achieve the aspirations of the Arab people before they achieve the aims of the Arab leaders.

Foreign Minister on Foreign Workers, Weapons

NC0707065191 Paris AFP in English 0632 GMT 7 Jul 91

[By Michael Adler]

[Excerpts] Kuwait City, July 7 (AFP)—Kuwait, where foreigners outnumbered native citizens before the Gulf war, is to re-shape its population to make Kuwaitis a majority, Foreign Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah al-Salim Al-Sabah said here.

"We have to be the majority in our own country. This is from the security point of view," Shaykh Salim said in an interview with Agence France-Presse on Saturday evening.

He denied however that Palestinians were a particular target and declined to confirm comments made by Kuwait's ambassador in Washington that only 50,000 Palestinians would remain.

"We are a government (and) do not let emotion rule us," he said on being fair-handed towards all the nationalities who work in Kuwait.

He said most recent figures for the total number of Palestinians who have been deported from Kuwait since the war is 28 out of a total of 56 who have been asked to leave.

A total of 1,470 Jordanians have been asked to leave, while 413 have left, he said. Most Jordanian passport holders in Kuwait are of Palestinian origin.

The figures for others who have been asked to leave and who have actually left is 392 Iraqis (107 actually left), 13 Yemenis (five), 22 Sudanese (five). [passage omitted]

"The reductions (in overall population) will not be aimed to a specific nationality. They will be aimed to make the balance so that we become the majority in our own country," Shaykh Salim said.

He said the economic factor should not be forgotten. Kuwait reducing its foreign workforce also since oil income will be down for at least two years due to wells set on fire by fleeing Iraqi soldiers. [sentence as received]

Nevertheless, diplomats and human rights advocates have charged that Palestinians have since liberation been under attack and pressure which seems designed to make it impossible for them to continue living in Kuwait.

Many have lost their government jobs and claim they are banned from working in the public sector.

Shaykh Salim denied that Palestinians were excluded from working in government jobs.

He said the emirate was going through a period of "inventory" taking and that once it started re-hiring foreign nationals Palestinians would be judged according to their suitability.

But he accused the PLO of making terrorist threats to Kuwait.

"Even Yasir 'Arafat threatened to go to the amir (Kuwaiti head of state Shaykh Jabir Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah) in his bedroom," Shaykh Salem said.

He said about King Husayn of Jordan, who backed Iraqi President Saddam Husayn during the war: "I think what he has done has damaged his image in the Arab world and no doubt in Kuwait."

Shaykh Salim said many Kuwaitis still feared a return of Iraqi forces and that this explained why they were holding on to weapons found after the Iraqi rout.

"Yes, they fear that Iraq, Saddam Husayn might come back again . . . and they think that their best friend is the Kalashnikov," he said.

A government amnesty for possessing weapons ended July 2, and the government has threatened searches to disarm the civilian population.

Shaykh Salim said there would be searches but that the problem was manageable.

"I think in six months time and one year's time when things become normal... the government will give them a permit to own a gun," he said.

Deadline for Surrender of Weapons Not Extended

PM0507144091 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 2 Jul 91 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Kuwaiti Interior Minister Says: Arms Surrender Deadline Will Not Be Extended"]

[Text] Kuwait, SAWT AL-KUWAYT—Kuwaiti Interior Minister Shaykh Ahmad al-Hamud has emphasized that the deadline set for the collection of all arms, which ends today, will not be extended. He demanded that all citizens and residents still in possession of arms hand them over immediately, or they will be subject to punishment by law.

In an exclusive statement to SAWT AL-KUWAYT, Shaykh Ahmad al-Hamud said that anyone who refuses to hand over the arms in his possession within the set deadline will be punished in accordance with the legal provisions applicable in such a case. The interior minister urged all people to hand over their arms in order to protect citizens' lives, especially since several incidents have occurred recently because of the presence of arms in citizens' and residents' possession.

It is known that the Interior Ministry has recently received a huge quantity of the arms left behind by the Iraqi forces following their withdrawal from Kuwait. Security sources have told SAWT AL-KUWAYT that the arms handed over by citizens were of various kinds and in huge quantities.

Amir Opens National Council Session

LD0907102591 London KUNA in Arabic 0918 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] Kuwait, 9 Jul (KUNA)—His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah at 0900 this morning opened the second session of the Kuwaiti National Council.

The session was attended by His Highness the Heir Apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, the speaker of the National Council 'Abdulaziz Yusuf al-Misa'id, shaykhs, high-ranking officials of the state, and members of the Arab and foreign diplomatic corps accredited to the state.

The opening ceremony started with the reading of verses from the Holy Koran.

Assembly Opens First Session Since Occupation

NC0907085191 Paris AFP in English 0836 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] Kuwait City, July 9 (AFP)—Kuwait's interim National Assembly on Tuesday opened its first session since the seven-month Iraqi occupation.

The amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, began the session by saying: "Thank God for victory over the Iraqi occupiers."

A U.S.-led coalition freed Kuwait in February.

Oman

'Abd-al-Majid on Solution to Palestine Issue

JN0907094291 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0843 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] Muscat, 9 Jul (WAKH)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has affirmed that there is no hope of establishing stability and peace in the Middle East without a peaceful settlement of the Palestine question.

The Arab League secretary general rejected Israel's stubborn stand regarding efforts to establish peace in the Middle East.

In an interview with the Omani magazine AL-NAHDAH published in its issue today, Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid

affirmed that there is no hope of realizing peace and stability in the Middle East without a peaceful settlement of the Palestine question.

In this regard, he called for a continuation of active political stands to support the Palestinian intifadah and the Palestinian people's rights, regardless of how long it takes.

Regarding the issue of Arab security, Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid stressed the need for cooperation among Arab states including the implementation of security measures. He said he believes security measures alone are not sufficient, but that other measures are needed within the framework of a comprehensive understanding of security with all its political, military, economic, and cultural aspects.

The Arab League secretary general said that the goal he is now aspiring for is to work on bridging the gap according to the principles of the Arab League Charter. He said that this is a noble goal and that any fault lies not in the Charter but in implementing it, since the Charter includes paragraphs that guarantee the rights and duties of the Arab countries.

Saddam Addresses Babil Delegation in Baghdad

JN0807193391 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1802 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jul (INA)—His Excellency President Saddam Husayn has said that this ancient country is not to be swayed by the availability or unavailability of commodities in the market. It will not sell its honor, gallantry, nationalism, or good name because of the absence of this or that commodity. His excellency the president added: The sacrifices made by Iraq was the dowry for a harvest of dignity and glory.

Speaking to a visiting delegation of dignitaries from the Babil Governorate, his excellency the president said: A situation that leaves its imprint on history and the human psyche of the Arab nation is not to be regarded as a loss. Glory is best served by the blood of our virtuous martyrs.

His excellency the president added: The mother of battles defies description, and if we want to see how important it is for us, we must review it from start to finish. We will then learn why 33 nations came to fight one nation—Iraq.

One, two, or three nations would have sufficed to commit aggression against a country and produce results, but why did they have to mobilize 33 states against Iraq? It is not idle talk to say 33 countries assembled against you. Being pitted against such a force does credit to you.

He indicated that in the mother of battles 33 countries were arrayed against Iraq. This was the historic equation. It is an immutable and indisputable equation. Some narrow-minded people may argue that had we managed our affairs more prudently, the 33 nations would not have ganged up on us, but this argument misses the point. These 33 nations are united anyway, even against such small things that inherently belong to any human being on earth as decreed by divine and temporal canons. They say that man is entitled to lead a decent life as if they have come up with a big deal they call human rights; not that human rights is not a good thing.

His excellency added: We all know that the human rights stipulated in the holy Koran are not produced by any law on earth. Despite this, we say that we recognize what they have said about human rights and it is good.

The president said: Those who say that they are more developed and more advanced than Iraq, the Arabs, and the Muslims also say that among human rights is man's right to live. How can man live if he does not eat? Therefore, man has a right to eat. How can man live without medicine, although this is an article agreed on by all of them, the big one who taught them magic and the small one, their tail. All of them agreed on this.

The president asked: Now the fighting has ended and Kuwait returned to its pre-2 August 1990 status. So why does the blockade against Iraq continue? He affirmed that this genuine country is not to be swayed by the availability or unavailability of commodities.

He affirmed that just like the present is for the Iraqis, the future, with God's help, will also be for the Iraqis. In all cases goodness is in the present and will extend to the future.

He said: The 1920 revolution, which was against one country, is still present in your pride and chanting. How will the mother of battles be for those who will observe its 20th anniversary? How will it play a role in building the individual, the homeland, and the nation 20 years from now?

He added: You have been chanting, boasting, and talking about the great meaning of the position of the faithful in the second al-Qadisiyah. What will your sons say about your stand in the face of injustice, tyrants, and all the vile evildoers from 33 countries who committed aggression against you?

The meeting was attended by Mazban Khadr Hadi, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and secretary of the Central Euphrates Organization Bureau; Babil Governor Tali' Khalil Rahim; and Karim Hasan Rida, secretary of the Babil leadership branch. The governorate's intellectuals, tribal chieftains, and members of the people's councils were part of the delegation.

Saddam Chairs Meeting for Senior Officials

JN0807181191 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1652 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jul (INA)—President Saddam Husayn presided over a meeting attended by 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC]; Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member and prime minister; and Tariq 'Aziz, RCC member and deputy prime minister. Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn and Culture and Information Minister Hamid Yusuf Hammadi also attended.

UN Envoy Protests U.S. Airspace Violations

27 June-1 July

JN0207074491 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2045 GMT 1 Jul 91

[Text] New York 1 Jul (INA)—Iraq has informed the United Nations of the continuing violations by U.S. aircraft of Iraqi airspace for reconnaissance and harassment purposes. Iraq's permanent representative to the United Nations said in a memorandum addressed to the UN secretary general today that the U.S. air activity inside Iraq's airspace 27-28 June 1991 totaled five sorties divided into two-plane formations and a single plane sortie. The planes flew at low and medium altitudes and at a speed of 600-700 km per hour.

He noted in the memorandum that on 28-29 June, U.S. planes carried out 24 sorties divided into 16 two-plane formations and one individual sortie. Their flight altitudes varied between 4.5 and 9 km and with a speed of 600-750 km per hour. He pointed out that the hostile planes concentrated their sorties over the areas of Mosul, Irbil, Karkuk, and Tall 'Afar.

In another memorandum regarding the U.S. planes' violations on 29-30 June, Iraq's permanent representative said today that their activity totaled five sorties divided over two two-plane formations and another individual sortie. These were concentrated over Mosul, Tall 'Afar, and Dahuk. He also reported the violations for 30 June and 1 July which totalled 13 air sorties divided over five two-plane formations as well as three individual sorties.

He noted that the altitudes ranged between 3 and 4 km and the speed between 600-900 km per hour. These were concentrated over the areas of Dahuk, Zakho, and al-'Amadiyah.

3-5 July

JN0607181891 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1705 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] United Nations 6 Jul (INA)—Iraq has informed the UN secretary general of the continuing violations of Iraqi airspace by U.S. planes with the objective of reconnaissance and harassment. Iraq's permament representative to the United Nations explained in his memorandum to the UN secretary general that total air activity for 3-4 July amounted to 22 sorties divided into 11 two- plane formations flying at a speed of 600-900 kms per hour at low altitude. The memorandum added that air activity was concentrated over the areas of Irbil, Mosul, Zakho, Dahuk, and al-'Amadiyah. It pointed out that at 2040 the planes dropped flares north of Mosul Dam.

A second memorandum explained that total U.S. air activity inside Iraqi airspace for 4-5 July amounted to 22 sorties divided into 11 two-plane formations, with the planes flying at a speed of 600-900 kms per hour at low and medium altitudes. The memorandum added that air activity was concentrated over the regions of Mosul, Irbil, Dahuk, Zakho, Tall 'Afar, and Mosul Dam.

5-6 July

JN0707134891 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1217 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Text] United Nations 7 Jul (INA)—U.S. aircraft have once again violated Iraqi airspace, engaging in reconnaissance and provocation. Iraq's permanent representative at the United Nations explained in a memorandum to the UN secretary general yesterday that the provocative American air activity for 5-6 July totaled three sorties divided into two two-plane formations and a single-plane sortie. The aircraft were flying at medium altitude at speeds of 600-900 km per hour. The memorandum added that air activity concentrated over Dahuk, al-'Amadiyah, and northern Mosul.

Opposition Claims 45 Officers, Commander Executed

NC0807140891 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Opposition in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] The Voice of the Iraqi Opposition has learned from its own sources that 5th Corps Commander Staff Major General 'Ismat Sabir, along with 45 officers from the the same corps, were executed two weeks ago because they refused to bomb populated centers in the marshland areas. Lieutenant General Namiq of the 5th Corps also was executed some time ago. These sources told our radio that Lieutenant General (?Yalja 'Adil) received military punishment.

These sources said that Armed Forces officers, particularly in the 5th Corps, are pensioned off daily. These sources said that this feverish campaign of executions and retirement indicates that the defeated tyrant is suffering from anxiety and suspicion, that the Iraqi Army officers disagaree with the tyrant's brutal campaign against the Iraqi people, and that the resentment among the Armed Forces is steadily growing, unimpeded by the defeated regime's brutality.

Reports 18 Officers Executed

NC0907060091 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Opposition in Arabic 0442 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] As part of the Saddam regime's policy of terrorizing the noble sons of our people and in an effort to cover up its crushing defeats, the humiliated regime has executed 18 officers, including some major generals, for plotting to stage a coup.

This has been confirmed by our sources and corroborated by UN investigation teams and Iraqi opposition forces abroad. Our sources have said that the humiliated tyrant's regime took this step after realizing the danger these officers posed to its future and added that this was the third attempt to overthrow the humiliated repressive regime since its crushing defeat in the Gulf war.

Meanwhile, clashes are continuing between opposition groups and Saddam's mercenaries throughout the areas surrounding the marshes and to their west, particularly in al-Nasiriyah Governorate. Widespread disturbances are occurring in the towns of al-Shatrah, Suq al-Shuyukh, and al-Majarr al-Kabir and on the outskirts of (?al-Basra). This confirms that the uprising will continue until the humiliated regime is overthrown.

Government Denies Report

NC0907084891 Paris AFP in English 0728 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] Baghdad, July 9 (AFP)—Iraq on Tuesday denied a report by United Nations sources that 18 army generals were recently executed for plotting to overthrow the

government of President Saddam Husayn. "We categorically deny this unfounded information," a spokesman for the Information Ministry here said. "This is a campaign launched by circles hostile to Iraq who are taking their wishes for reality," the spokesman said.

U.N. sources in Bahrain told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE over the weekend that 18 Iraqi generals were executed lastl month by hanging—rather than shot by a firing squad as in the normal practice in the military for high-ranking officers—in connection with three attempts since February to overthrow Mr. Husayn. The sources, who were quoting unnamed Iraqi sources, had taken part in U.N. missions to Baghdad in the aftermath of the Gulf war triggered by Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait.

Barzani on Agreement, Talks With Government

JN0807164191 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 7 Jul 91 p 6

[Diya' Hasan report on AL-THAWRAH interview with Mas'ud Barzani, secretary general of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan, DPK, at his "residence in northern Iraq" on 3 July]

[Text] It was not easy to meet face to face after 20 years of expatriation and fighting.

It was difficult to start a new dialogue after it was obstructed by the regrettable and bloody events of that period. Arab-Kurdish brotherhood is stronger. Thus, the meeting was inevitable. Therefore brotherhood is the key to a fraternal dialogue aimed at entrenching national unity and consolidating brotherhood among the sons of the one people.

That was how our interviewee summed up his ideas on the dialogue, which has started and will continue.

He is Mas'ud Barzani, secretary general of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan, with whom we had an interview in his place of residence in northern Iraq. The interview deals with the dialogue between the one people and its results, which will lead to a final agreement between state officials and the Kurdistan parties. The interview also deals with the front's meetings in Shaqlawah and the horizons of future national reconstruction efforts in Iraq.

AL-THAWRAH began with the question: Two trends governed the statements dealing with the development of the dialogue on the autonomy agreement. In four successive issues, AL-THAWRAH highlighted the positive aspects of these statements, especially your declaration that you would return to Baghdad soon to conclude this dialogue.

How true are the statements attributed to you and to some brothers in the front who implied otherwise? When will you return to conclude the dialogue?

Barzani: You are welcome. I am very pleased to meet with you. In fact I consider your presence here a good chance to express my viewpoint and that of the Kurdistan front on the dialogue, results, and expectations. We have followed the news. It seems that there are considerable efforts to blemish the entire process and the entire dialogue. I would first like to note that the decision to begin a dialogue was not easy. I believe it was neither easy for the state nor for us. When the decision to begin a dialogue was made, it was not done haphazardly, but was the outcome of an in- depth study and a conviction that this is the sound and correct solution. Even if fratricide continues for decades to come, the result would be to return to dialogue. Even if we as a front and this generation in Baghdad cease to exist, those who will come after us must talk to each other to find a political solution to the issue.

Barzani added: Of course, although the dialogue decision was difficult, we held clear and detailed discussions in Baghdad. Who would have imagined that we could meet after all those years in exile and after the tragic events that took place? As for me, I did not think much about the meeting. After we decided to hold a dialogue, a delegation under brother Jalal Talabani visited Baghdad in mid-April. After him, I arrived in Baghdad on 6 May and spent 42 days there. I can confirm that our dialogue dealt with very important issues, but six minor points remained unresolved. Through consultations with the brother officials, we decided that it was appropriate for us to return to the region to hold consultations within the leadership of the Kurdistan front, after which we—brother Jalal Talabani and I—can return to Baghdad to finalize the agreement.

AL-THAWRAH: What happened during your stay in the region? Is it true that there are differences among the front parties regarding the agreement as has been said in particular reports?

Barzani: During my stay in the region I held many meetings with the brothers in the leadership of the Kurdistan front. It was a precious opportunity to seek the opinion of the largest number of the masses in the region. Fortunately, and contrary to what is being reported, I can say that more than 90 percent want the agreement, and this is splendid.

AL-THAWRAH: What is your decision then?

Barzani: The decision is that I, together with brother Jalal Talabani, will return to Baghdad with a very high-level delegation. It is not necessary to set the exact day we will leave for Baghdad, because the date might change if new developments occur. However, initially 6 July, that is three days from now, could be the appropriate time to return to Baghdad. I believe this will be the last round of fraternal dialogue after which the agreement will be signed.

AL-THAWRAH: What about the biased distortions?

Barzani: The objective of these distortions is clear to everyone. Our statements were misinterpreted many times. My own statements were misinterpreted many

times. Even if the interpretations of the sons of this homeland were different one day, the whole world is supposed to support us because we are working to resolve our problems peacefully. I cannot understand why all the parties to the conflicts in the world are asked to peacefully resolve their problems, but we are deprived of this. Therefore I say: We are the ones who decide what should be done, and the decision is to resolve our problem peacefully. This is the right path. Let it be known that regardless of the differences in the past, Arab-Kurdish brotherhood will remain higher and dearer than everything. This sacred fraternity must remain the basis on which to build the future.

Barzani continued: You see brother Diya' that after 20 bloody years, Arab-Kurdish brotherhood remained stronger than all the difficult years in which many people imagined that this fraternity had been split forever. Meanwhile, in the first meeting with the brother officials we felt that this brotherhood is the solid rock on which everything hostile will break.

AL-THAWRAH: We value what you have said—that it was not easy to adopt the decision of dialogue. What is more difficult was how the parties would meet after years of estrangement among brothers—the sons of the one people. Would you depict what took place, particularly since there are people who are trying to tarnish the image of the meeting?

Barzani: I believe that I clarified this at the beginning of the interview. How was the decision reached? I would like to note that it was our decision. We were ready for dialogue every minute, but we did not know how. How was the official side thinking? What was its view on such a dialogue? Was it ready? And I tell you that many years ago, that is before the ongoing dialogue, there were attempts, but they were not as serious as they should have been and they were not on the same level.

But we have recently felt that the time is right for launching a fraternal dialogue. Our decision was based on conviction; it was not made as the result of a certain development or a passing circumstance; it was the product of 20 years of labor. We talked with state officials in complete frankness. Over the past 20 years, we did everything against each other: We tried to come to Baghdad to meet new faces and our brothers in Baghdad tried to annihilate us. But the final results were something else, and it was imperative for the same faces to meet. This means a lot. I frankly say—and although frankness is very painful to me, I still believe in it—that we may agree with the current leadership about things we could not agree about with any alternative regime. Therefore, I was personally convinced that the moment we agree to meet, we will also agree on everything. I had hoped that when the day would come for the dialogue, all officials and all Iraqis would realize that this option proceeded from national considerations and eagerness for Iraq's national unity, for Arab-Kurdish brotherhood, and for the prosperous future we hope for our homeland and the Iraqi people.

Barzani added: We took the national option from among several options. This means that when we decided to start the dialogue, we were not compelled to do so but convinced that it is the correct way.

AL-THAWRAH: What matters after that is the proceedings of the Baghdad meeting which you described as "difficult."

Barzani: When we came to Baghdad, we did not feel we were in a strange or remote place. We came to our capital. Baghdad is our capital, although we have been away from it for 20 years, and Iraq is our country no matter what happens.

He added: In the meetings with the delegation headed by brother 'Izzat Ibrahim and in the meetings with other officials, we did not feel that anything was separating us. Despite the circumstances of the past 20 years and their regrettable developments, we found common sentiments and a sincere desire to reach a deeper formula for brotherhood; there were no negotiations between two sides.

I proudly point out here that President Saddam Husayn also received us in an atmosphere of care. I was not surprised at all, because I have known the president personally since 1970 when he came to Kalalah [as published] and met with my late father. The president received us in a positive climate. He stressed our joint desire to turn the page of the past, to forget past events, to move toward the future to build the homeland, and to act as one team, not two. This is exactly what happened, and I stress that the positions of the president and the officials positively and greatly influenced our dialogue and characterized it with honesty and trust. These positions also greatly helped us gain important results from the dialogue. We sensed that the president had all affinity and care and a sincere and responsible desire to resolve the issue peacefully. This made us optimistic, and we approached the dialogue very seriously.

AL-THAWRAH: Your statements, apart from instigations by some circles that do not want good for Iraq, have always stressed that the dialogue was not held by two contradictory parties but by one party that has viewpoints and conclusions that are subject to discussion. What did you discuss and what are the general steps you reached through the dialogue of the one party?

Barzani: The issues that were discussed in depth are, for example, democracy, which is a very important issue and in which one takes pride before friendly states and fraternal and international parties. I believe that democracy is the best remedy for all our internal problems. I announce that we reached very positive results in this respect. Regarding the law on autonomy, I can say that we have agreed on a new law that will be enacted soon to deepen the experience of the past 20 years, that will benefit from the mistakes and loopholes in the present law, and that will develop the experience. As I said, there are positive and appreciable matters.

AL-THAWRAH: Then what?

Barzani: There are matters related to the normalization of relations among the sons of the one people after long years in which Arab-Kurdish brotherhood faced regrettable incidents. In this regard, we also reached positive and vital results and bases to restore amity among the sons of the one nation. Other observations were also made by the brothers in the Kurdistan front during our discussions in order to enrich this process. We will convey them to our brothers in Baghdad.

Barzani continued: Regarding the borders of the autonomous region, I would like to explain before talking about the details of this point that when we talk about the autonomous region, we do not mean borders dividing two entities. The state is one. It is the Republic of Iraq, and its borders are the ones that are recognized by the world and that we are eager to protect and safeguard.

Regarding what we call the borders of the autonomous region, we can say that it is the one within which autonomy is practiced, that it is an integral part of Iraq, and that no one demands that it be separated from Iraq. There is an Iraqi autonomous region, and a clear understanding of this fact will further deepen Iraqi national unity.

He added: Regarding this subject, I can say that we have found the right path leading to a joint, final concept. In the coming days everything will be defined, God willing.

AL-THAWRAH: A few days ago, you were quoted as saying that this issue will not be an obstacle to a comprehensive agreement to enrich the autonomy experience and deepen brotherhood and national unity. What do you think?

Barzani: Yes indeed. Nothing must stand in the way of understanding. Reaching an agreement must be the main goal. Although this issue is very important to us, I believe that after our meetings in Baghdad we will reach a reasonable and acceptable formula.

He added: Concerning the team work, it is true. Experience over the past 20 years has proved that trust is the most important thing. If members of the one family lack trust in each other, they cannot accomplish what they may agree on. Without trust, there will be problems. Our chief concern should be the consolidation of confidence. Thank God I can say that we managed to build such confidence. Let us face it: What has been achieved was not the result of the Kurdish movement's efforts alone, nor was the other side forced to make concessions. The truth is that we both have gone through rich and long, albeit bitter, experience. Although it lasted more than 30 years, it proved that there is a political solution, not a military one, and that the time has come for us to work to achieve this political solution.

AL-THAWRAH: What did you find?

Barzani: We are discussing and helping each other find the best formula for the brotherhood of the Arab and Kurdish nationalities in the Republic of Iraq. This is what we need to do and precisely what we have done. We should not impose conditions, and conditions should not be imposed on us. We were acting as one team looking for the best formula for national unity.

AL-THAWRAH: There is ill-intentioned talk aimed at harming the objectives of the Kurdish movement by accusing it of concentrating only on the demands of our Kurdish people. What do you say to this?

Barzani: It is known that in the past, very regrettable events took place. As I said, we tried to end each other's role, and there were really painful issues such as attempts to change the national features of some areas and to replace the residents of some areas with others. This happened under extraordinary circumstances and perhaps it happened for security reasons, but the state was compelled to do it. Now—and this is one of the important points we accomplished—we agreed to cancel the extraordinary decisions and allow citizens to return to their villages and places of origin. Under normal circumstances, however, there is nothing wrong if a person from al-Basrah moves to the autonomous region, for instance, or if a Kurd lives in al-Ramadi. There should be no problem. We agreed on this; namely, that things return to normal.

AL-THAWRAH: I am asking about Kurdish parties focusing exclusively on the Kurdish region. What do you think?

Barzani: This is untrue, since we believe that when the entire country is in good shape, the autonomous region will be too. Without taking into account the interests of the entire country, it will not be possible for this experiment to succeed. We are working hand in hand with the state to reconstruct Iraq. We very much want security and stability to prevail throughout the country. I believe that democracy will lead to stability and enable us together to erect a new, stable, and prosperous structure.

AL-THAWRAH: Throughout the history of the national struggle, forces bearing a grudge against Iraq and its people have sought to harm national unity and Arab-Kurdish brotherhood. Do you see these forces giving in and the brotherly dialogue producing positive results?

Barzani: Regrettably there was a big loophole in the past from which both Iraqi Arabs and Kurds suffered. Therefore, this time we are taking our time in order for this dialogue to be our last. We want to discuss the minute details and plug all loopholes and thwart the spoilers. I would like to point out that we are determined to arrive at the best formula for national action so that we and brother officials begin building Iraq and consolidating Arab-Kurdish brotherhood resulting in the country being a model of ethnic brotherhood. Iraq is rich with resources. This agreement is bound to foil all external, tendentious attempts.

Barzani added: Some quarters are hoping the agreement will fail to materialize, but there is no lack of determination to carry the process through. Over the years, alienation and divsions have taken their toll on all the Iraqi people, especially the Kurds. The chance of a lifetime has presented itself, and we ought not to miss it. It may be that past mistakes were the result of misunderstandings or that we failed to learn our lessons, but now we have rich experience to draw on. The picture of the future will dispel the negative residue of the past. I am very optimistic, and we have ahead of us tasks that we must come to grips within the interest of the people and the nation.

AL-THAWRAH: Stability in the region is getting to be a reality now. Do you not think the time is right for joint action toward the return of evacuees from across the border to their cities and villages?

Barzani: Yes indeed, the time is right. Our front has urged the population to return to its original residences. If some families are still outside their regions, they are very few and do not compare with the massive numbers we originally saw. Most of them have now returned to their areas. An effort is under way to see to the repatriation of those who have not yet returned to their cities and villages. If they are hesitant, this is because they first want to be assured of tranquillity and stability in the region. We would like them to go back to their homes after their fears are allayed. It is only a matter of time before they do. We will mount a joint effort with the government and maybe the United Nations and the Red Cross to expedite the process.

Rebel Radio Reports Fighting in Maysan, South

NC0807070391 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 0440 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Our revolutionaries remain faithful to their pledge to struggle until the humiliated regime in Baghdad is overthrown. According to well informed sources at the command of our popular revolution's committees, intense fighting has occurred between our rebelling popular forces and regime troops in various areas in Maysan Governorate. Large numbers of the ruling clique's troops have also been killed and wounded in several explosions. Over the past few days, the battle has escalated between our revolutionary heroes and the Republican Guard forces who are trying to encircle the Shiite refugees in the southern areas of the country.

Turkoman Union Formed To Fight Government

NC0907071991 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Opposition in Arabic 0442 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] The Turkoman brothers have issued the constituent statement of their Islamic Union [al-Ittihad al-Islami], announcing the march of the heroic popular uprising and expressing solidarity with their brothers from the other ethnic groups and communities in the effort to bring down the despicable regime.

The statement said: The Turkomans are an integral part of the past, present, and (?future) of the great Islamic nation. Their forefathers in Iraq suffered a great deal and faced severe persecution due to their Islamic affiliation and their insistence on following its teachings in explaining the world, life, and man. The Islamic Union believes that the Turkomans are part of Iraq's Muslim people and will [words indistinct] to cooperate with all the Iraqi opposition forces to topple Saddam's infidel regime and set up an alternative government based on the people's choice exercised through free elections.

The Islamic Union calls on the Islamic resistance to gather its ranks and [word indistinct] the the Iraqi opposition's recent signing of the statement of joint action. It highly praises our Muslim Iraqi people's sweeping uprising in the south and the north and sends an urgent appeal to the Turkomans to rise against the tyrant and join the people's uprising. The hour of victory is at hand, God willing.

The Muslim Turkoman brothers have a significant and effective role in the jihad and struggle. They have given hundreds of martyrs and have prominent figures in the field of political and [word indistinct] action.

Paper Condemns U.S. 'Deception' Against Iraq

JN0807083891 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0630 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jul (INA)—The newspaper AL-QADISIYAH has condemned the U.S. media campaign of deception and lies waged against Iraq. The newspaper, published by the Ministry of Defense, said the U.S. aim behind this clamor is to prepare the international atmosphere for obtaining prior justification to wage a new aggression on Iraq or pave the way toward a new step or stage of the conspiracy against its people, such as keeping the unjust economic siege, despite the human catastrophe that might befall the Iraqi people if this siege were to continue.

AL-QADISIYAH continues: What makes us doubtful and careful of the aggressive U.S. intentions against Iraq and its people is that Washington, after implementing dangerous stages of its conspiratorial scheme including the tyrannical military aggression, is realizing day by day that its motives behind this conspiracy have been destroyed and that it has failed to realize its political goals, foremost of which is to directly control Iraq's resources and break the people's determination and rallying around President Saddam Husayn's historic leadership.

The newspaper notes that the United States, which also wagered on the demagogues and events in northern Iraq, has had its goals completely frustrated after the return of calm to Iraq's towns, after security prevailed, and after the positive stage in the dialogue between the Arab and Kurdish brothers under the umbrella of the united homeland, Iraq, which brings good tidings for the near future represented in an agreement that turns the page of

the past so that the sons of the country can come together and join hands and efforts to rebuild the damage caused by the 30-nation aggression on Iraq.

Thousands of 'Oppositionists' Arrested in South

PM090710569l London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 6 Jul 91 p 4

[Unattributed report: "New Campaign of Executions Within Iraqi Army Ranks"]

[Excerpt] Capitals, SAWT AL-KUWAYT, agencies—Iraqi Government forces have tightened their siege on the southern areas and launched revenge operations in a number of towns in preparation for a large-scale offensive on tens of thousands of oppositionists who have sought refuge in the marsh area. Meanwhile, an international spokesman has emphasized that Iraqi refugees in the area need relief supplies.

Iraqi opposition sources have reported the eruption of limited clashes between opposition groups and government forces in al-Nasiriyah governorate and in areas close to the marshes. The local authorities have launched a large-scale campaign of arrests affecting thousands of youngsters, including military personnel recently demobilized from their units.

The sources told SAWT AL-KUWAYT yesterday that the towns of al-Shatrah, Suq al-Shuyukh, and al-Majarr al-Kabir, right to the outskirts to al-Basrah, are experiencing widespread unrest as a result of the government forces' operations of terror.

The sources said that the authorities' military offensive has been postponed because of the international campaign condemning the Iraqi Army's preparations to perpetrate another massacre in southern Iraq.

The sources also said that the recent execution of hundreds of military personnel and regular army officers was designed to spread fear within the Armed Forces and to paralyze their sympathy with the fighters in the marsh area. [passage omitted]

Further Reportage on Jazzin Developments

Arens Denies Withdrawal Plans

TA0907112791 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens says Israel is not planning to give up the security zone in south Lebanon and he has received no messages from the U.S. Administration calling for an Israeli withdrawal. Arens was speaking this morning to reporter Alan Ben-'Ami after watching a Golani Infantry Brigade exercise on the Golan Heights.

[Begin recording] [Arens] I think there has been a long-standing U.S. policy that there should not be foreign military troops on Lebanese soil, neither Syrian nor Israeli. The fact of the matter is that there are, at the present time, Syrian military in large quantity—I would estimate about 40,000 Syrian troops—on Lebanese soil at the present time. Of course, there is an Israeli presence in the area for reasons that, I think, are well understood in the United States. Anybody who tends to forget is reminded almost weekly by the incidents of terrorists trying to cross into Israel from Lebanon.

[Ben-'Ami] It also begs the question, of course, of just how much longer Israeli troops are going to stay in Lebanon. The Lebanese Army does appear to be having quite some success in restoring Lebanese sovereignty and taking control of areas in south Lebanon.

[Arens] We have paid a very high price to assure the population of the northern part of Israel the safety that they deserve and that the Israeli Government owes them, and we are not about to give that up. The fact of the matter is that during the last few weeks we have had an increase in the number of incidents of terrorists trying to penetrate into Israel from the north.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1100 GMT on 9 July carries a related report, adding that Arens said that "the defense establishment is pleased that the PLO men are being disarmed, but the process is not yet over and, at the moment, no results are evident in the field."]

[Ben-'Ami] What is Israel's position regarding Jazzin and the South Lebanese Army positions there, under the command of General Lahd?

[Arens] We give complete support and backing to Gen. Lahd.

[Ben-'Ami] Does that mean that you would also oppose a Lebanese Army deployment in Jazzin, if Gen. Lahd were to ask for that support?

[Arens] To the best of my knowledge, the Lebanese Government has not even initiated any contacts with Gen. Lahd on this issue.

[Ben-'Ami] We are talking now during an Army exercise here, on the Golan Heights. Close by, an Army position on the Hermon was attacked by terrorists a few nights ago. To what extent or how much is known about Syria's possible involvement in it?

[Arens] There is no question that the terrorists who tried to penetrate an Israeli outpost on the Hermon the other night came from Syria. Therefore, Syria bears the responsibility for this terrorist incident.

[Ben-'Ami] There are reports of Syria receiving new weapons shipments. What is the situation with regard to the balance of forces here?

[Arens] The Syrians have a very large Army. They are in the process of acquiring additional weapons. Maybe most serious of all, they are acquiring Scud missiles from North Korea. Israel, throughout its existence, has had to deal with a situation where the Arab armies were considerably larger in the number of soldiers and quantity of equipment, but we have always been able to handle that situation by the superiority that we have achieved in quality. [end recording]

The defense minister added that Israel was prepared for any developments regarding Iraq, and, he added, while it had not been surprised by the fact that the Iraqis were trying to develop nuclear weapons, some of the details now being revealed were surprising.

Reevaluation of Commitment Asked

TA0807051891 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Report by Dani Gur-Arye]

[Excerpt] After the completion of the PLO's disarmament in south Lebanon, all eyes are now on the South Lebanese Army [SLA] and on Israel, which exercises influence over the militia. Prime Minister Shamir and senior ministers said yesterday Israel would not withdraw from the area so long as it continued to serve as a home for anti-Israel terrorists, but a number of senior Army officers said late yesterday that Israel ought to reassess its role in south Lebanon, and especially in the Jazzin area, which is well north of the security zone.

It would be a mistake, said one officer, to continue to declare our commitment to Jazzin, controlled by the SLA. The officers said the conditions had changed significantly in the area since Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon in 1985. The new order in Lebanon, they said, was certain to bring pressure on Israel to withdraw its forces from Lebanon. If the Lebanese Army could guarantee Israel's security in the south, there was no reason to remain in the area, said the officers. [passage omitted]

[Writing on page 1 of Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 8 July, Bradley Burston adds: "The defense establishment is studying a number of scenarios for the new situation in Lebanon, Western military sources told THE JERUSALEM POST yesterday."

["The sources add that Israeli evaluation of the possible scenarios is being accompanied by intensive monitoring of the disarming of Lebanese militias, not only in Sidon and other zones with ties to the PLO, but throughout Lebanon.

["Of particular interest to Israeli defense authorities is the prospect of arms caches hidden by militia forces from Lebanese government troops, the sources said. Israel is also known to be closely monitoring the effect of the incorporation of militia units into the Lebanese Army."]

Giving Up Jazzin Urged

TA0707130391 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 7 Jul 91 p 7

[Editorial: "Do Not Insist on Jazzin"]

[Text] The deployment of the Lebanese Army in the south could ensure Lebanon's cohesion—the central government in charge of internal security included—and prevent the existence of armed groups jeopardizing its existence and unity. Judging by its avowed position in the past, Israel should be interested in such a development. No Israeli, except for Ari'el Sharon, believes that Lebanon should have been turned into an Israeli zone of influence, and Israel's involvement has been limited to safeguarding the north against hostile actions and terror attacks from across the border.

The security zone was established to that end. The South Lebanese Army [SLA], financed and trained by Israel, and when necessary, Israeli Army patrols, operate there to the same end. Although Jazzin is situated to the north of the security zone, the SLA extended its control to this mostly Christian town.

The Lebanese Government has expressed its wish to extend its control to Jazzin following the consolidation of its rule in Sidon, but this wish has run into Israeli opposition. It should be noted that Jazzin is not part of Eretz Yisra'el, and even the ideologically extremist Likud government does not contend that it should be annexed to Israel or that we should guarantee our eternal rule over it. Therefore, Jazzin should not be turned into another source of disagreement and conflict between Israel and Lebanon and the international community.

Israel must see to its security and that of its civilian population and northern border, but there is no reason to interfere in Lebanon's internal conflicts among Muslims, Christians, Shiites, and Druze. There is no political sense in expanding Israel's involvement beyond its vital security needs. Nobody will justify or support an Israeli attempt to extend its rule to Lebanese towns distant from Israel.

It is in Israel's interest to have a united, independent, and stable Lebanon. Israel's involvement in south Lebanon and its control over 1,100 square km of its territory are a pretext for the Syrian Army's presence in Lebanon, and there is no doubt that Israel should be interested in a pullout of all the foreign armies from it.

Therefore, one should be wary of turning Jazzin into another source of international conflict that would attest to Israel's expansionism and intentions to hold onto territory in yet another Arab country. Such a position would contribute nothing to bringing peace closer between Israel and its neighbors, and might sabotage Israel's relations with other countries.

Gen. Lahd on Weapons

TA0807084891 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0800 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] General Lahd, commander of the South Lebanese Army, says that terrorists from the Sidon camps have surrendered less than one-tenth of their heavy and medium-caliber weapons. According to him, his personnel reached this conclusion on the basis of observation.

In Gen. Lahd's opinion, the Lebanese Army is incapable of entering the camps and collecting the weapons, and it has no intention of doing so; therefore, the camps are in danger of turning into a refuge for Lebanese and international terrorism.

In a talk with our correspondent Hayim Hecht, Gen. Lahd confirmed that as far back as five years ago, he invited a regular Lebanese Army unit into Jazzin. That unit remains in the town, under his command. He has made it clear to the unit's commanders that if the Lebanese Army attempts to change the situation by charging the unit with tasks without prior coordination with him, it will be forced to leave Jazzin.

Lahd Warns Against Pressure

TA0807114691 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1005 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Report by Hayim Hecht on news conference held by General Antoine Lahd, commander of the South Lebanese Army, on 8 July in Metulla—recorded]

[Excerpts] In a show of confidence before international media, General Lahd said: I am not moved by Beirut's declarations. No one will enter Jazzin without direct negotiations with me and the Israeli Government. If the Lebanese Army tries to send its troops to Jazzin, there will be a genuine war, and I have no doubt as to who will emerge victorious. [passage omitted]

Lahd stressed that despite everything, Jazzin is not part of the security zone and no IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops are present there. The Lebanese Government is trying to use international pressure, particularly that of the United States, to force its way into Jazzin. So far, he adds, no one has contacted me on this issue. I am indifferent to pressures; we have been through much tougher periods.

He adds—and I believe this is the most interesting point—that if the Lebanese nevertheless insist on regarding Jazzin as part of the security zone, there is no problem as far as he is concerned. I asked him: Have you discussed this with official Israeli elements? He answers without saying much: We talk constantly about many things. To sum up: According to Lahd, there is certainly a possibility that if pressured by Lebanon, Israel will react by annexing Jazzin to the security zone. If the Lebanese try another approach, he added, such as gunfire, war will break out. He believes that they will be sufficiently astute to realize that they stand no chance with this approach. [passage omitted]

Military Coordinator on Deployment

TA0807153891 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Report by 'Udi Segal]

[Text] At this stage, I see no reason to change the deployment along the northern border, Uri Lubrani, the coordinator of activities in Lebanon, said. It is true that the Lebanese Army is active against the terrorists in Sidon and is recording successes, but to conclude on that basis that there should be a change in the Israeli position is far from realistic. Lubrani said there has been no change in Israel's stand on the Jazzin enclave.

[Begin Lubrani recording] The status quo has not been upset at all. The newspaper headlines about the Lebanese Army entering Jazzin are utter rubbish. There are soldiers in Jazzin under the commander of General Lahd, some of them belonging to the Lebanese Army. [end recording]

It is a powder keg there. A night does not pass without something happening. We must follow developments, but we must also weigh with caution any move to change our deployment so that no mistakes are made. Any decision on Lebanon must be balanced and cautious, he stressed. Lubrani said that Syrian influence in Lebanon derives from the presence of 60,000 Syrian soldiers in the Beirut area. He said there are signs that Syria knew in some way about the Mount Hermon attack [on 3 July] in which Staff Sergeant Ehud Ben-Mordekhay was killed.

[Begin Lubrani recording] The Syrians influence the Lebanese Government. At the same time, the Syrians know that they can act as long as they do not affect Israel's vital interests, but the moment they touch on Israel's vital interests they have us to deal with. [end recording]

The main point is to look after the security of the northern settlements.

[Begin Lubrani recording] It is simplistic to get up and leave Lebanon, to throw the keys across the border, and say: Stew in your own juice. If we do that, I promise you that within nine months we will be back in Lebanon with many casualties and many, many more problems. [end recording]

Arens Aide on Increase in Incidents in North

TA0807101991 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Jul 91 p 12

[Text] Terror incidents originating from southern Lebanon have increased recently, contrary to expectations that they would continue to decrease, Dani Nave, aide to the defense minister, said, in light of reports that the Lebanese government will soon press for Israel to leave the security zone.

"We must remember that Israel has paid the price in blood to secure the security of its citizens in the north and it will not do anything to diminish that security," Nave said.

According to Defense Ministry figures released yesterday, there were 11 IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and South Lebanese Army clashes with terrorists in the first six months of this year and two Katyusha firings. Twenty-six terrorists have been killed in the clashes, with no Israeli casualties.

The Lebanese Army's defeat of the PLO in the Sidon area has increased concern in the IDF that the PLO might retreat southward toward the security zone and increase its terrorist activities.

The attack last week on the Mt. Hermon position that killed an IDF reservist apparently involved terrorists originating from Lebanon.

Last year, there were 21 clashes with terrorists on the northern front and in the security zone, resulting in seven IDF casualties and the death of 46 terrorists.

According to the military figures, 20 terrorists have been killed on the Jordanian border so far this year. One Israeli civilian and an IDF soldier have been killed and four Israelis wounded on the border. The most recent attack was on June 1, when one terrorist was killed when he and his partner tried to penetrate an IDF post in the Mehola area. One IDF soldier was slightly wounded in the attack.

There have been no incidents so far this year on the Egyptian front, although last November 25, three soldiers and a civilian IDF employee were killed and 23 were wounded when an Egyptian soldier crossed the Israeli-Egyptian border in the area of 'En Netafim and fired on military vehicles traveling on the Elat-Qadesh Barnea' road.

Levi on Middle East Arms Control Conference

TA0807140091 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 8 Jul 91 p 3

[Report by Moti Bassok]

[Text] The five permanent members of the UN Security Council are due to meet today and tomorrow in Paris within the framework of the committee on limiting arms exports to the Middle East. On the eve of the meeting,

Israeli Foreign Minister David Levi yesterday reiterated his call for an international conference of all exporters of conventional weapons to the region and of all Middle East countries to discuss practical ways to limit the Middle East arms race.

In a statement released yesterday, Levi said that Israel attaches great importance to ongoing efforts to limit and reduce the quantities of conventional weapons in the Middle East.

Israel was among the first countries to point to the necessity of imposing limitations on the regional arms race, even before the Gulf war, because it believed that the tremendous quantities of weapons in the Middle East could lead to the destabilization of the region and another war.

"The Arab arsenal and its huge dimensions constitute a threat to Israel's very existence," Levi said. The foreign minister noted that Iraq still constitutes a danger and that Syria does not differ essentially from Iraq. "It is very important that the parties convening in Paris consider maintaining Israel's qualitative and military edge a sine qua non to prevent another war in the region, because Israel is the only country in the Middle East threatened by all its neighbors—except Egypt—and by all of them together."

Levi added that the threat to Israel is not only posed by its neighbors but by other countries in the Middle East. Levi concludes his statement: "We are aware of the difficulties involved in discussing arms control measures while the Arab states maintain a state of war with Israel. If the state of war is terminated, however, talks could be initiated."

Pazner on 'Arafat-Sidqi Meeting, Peace

TA0907102791 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 9 Jul 91 pp 1, 12

[Report by David Makovsky and news agencies]

[Excerpts] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met Egyptian Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi in the Libyan city of Banghazi yesterday, the first time he has seen such a senior Egyptian since the outbreak of the Gulf crisis. [passage omitted]

In Jerusalem, officials in the Prime Minister's Office were upset with Egypt's high-level meeting with 'Arafat.

The meeting is the first meeting between 'Arafat and a senior member of the anti-Iraq coalition since the end of the Gulf war.

"No good will come of this. It will not advance the cause of peace," Avi Pazner, the prime minister's spokesman, said.

Israeli intelligence officials have long been expecting Egypt to be the first member of the coalition to break the taboo on 'Arafat. Gulf states have refused to meet the PLO leader because of his support for Iraq's Saddam Husayn and have cut off funding to the organization. [passage omitted]

Likud Faction, Levi Protest Egyptian Comments

TA0807111891 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Today the Likud Knesset faction voiced its sharp protest of what it termed Egyptian intervention in Israel's internal affairs. Dov Gilhar, our correspondent in the Knesset, reports:

The statements made by the Egyptians have angered the Likud Knesset faction's leadership. At a meeting of the faction's executive this morning, Chairwoman Sara Doron expressed a sharp protest against what she termed Egypt's intervention in Israel's domestic affairs. Doron was reacting to reports that senior Egyptian officials had said that Israeli Prime Minister Shamir is an obstacle to the promotion of the peace process. Knesset member Doron said that Egypt is not a democratic country and that it is amazing that such a country, to which democratic processes are totally foreign, allows itself to criticize the elected government of a friendly neighbor. The Likud faction expressed its support for the prime minister's handling of the peace process.

On the same subject, Foreign Minister David Levi today met with Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Muhammad Basyuni and protested the expressions used against Prime Minister Shamir in the Egyptian media. These expressions, Levi said, have insulted Israel on the national level. Ambassador Basyuni replied that the Egyptian Government and Egyptian President Mubarak are unhappy with the attacks against Israel and that these attacks do not reflect Egypt's policies.

Arab Paper Claims Labor Sent Messages to Arabs

TA0807112891 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 8 Jul 91 p A1

[Report by Ilan Shehori, Gid'on Alon, Ori Nir, and the Arab affairs correspondent]

[Excerpt] "The Labor Party has recently sent indirect messages to some Arab capitals, stating that no agreement whatsoever should be expected on the Middle East before the Israeli elections at the end of 1992." This is reported by the popular Arab paper AL-HAYAH in the banner headline of its international edition, which appears in London.

Consequently, the Labor Party reportedly noted in the messages, the Arab leaders need not adopt substantial and definitive decisions, neither vis-a-vis Israel nor with regard to the ideas raised in connection with a political arrangement in the region.

It reportedly asked the Arab leaders to understand that in the next election campaign, the Labor Party will be forced to adopt a rigid position regarding the peace

process "in a bid to challenge the Likud and in view of the fact that its conciliatory views cost it the loss of some of its constituents." If it returns to power after the elections, however, the Labor Party will once again assume its conciliatory positions.

Reacting to the report, Knesset member Mikha Harish, secretary general of the Labor Party, stated last night: "This is the first time I have heard about this. To the best of my knowledge, no such messages have been relayed on behalf of the Labor Party. If the story is true, then nobody was authorized to do such a thing on behalf of the Labor Party. Whoever did will be in serious trouble." [passage omitted]

Al-Hirawi 'Massacre of Palestinians' Deplored

TA0307175891 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 3 Jul 91 pp 1, 7

[Editorial: "Al-Hirawi's 'Manly Qualities'!"]

[Text] All visible signs in south Lebanon indicate that "al- Hirawi's army," backed by the United States and Israel, is determined to implement its pre-arranged plan to terminate the Palestinian civilian and military presence in south Lebanon. This army is pursuing this destructive policy under the guise of expanding its control over all Lebanese territory and under the pretext that the Palestinian presence in the south is an obstacle to the Lebanese Army's advance to "liberate" the south from Israeli occupation.

Al-Hirawi's army yesterday added another reprehensible crime to the series of crimes perpetrated against our people in Lebanon when this army shelled Palestinian refugee camps with heavy artillery, causing the martyrdom and injury of scores of people and the dispersal of hundreds of others, mainly women and children.

Thus, the timing of the shelling, the deliberate confrontation after the al-Hirawi government refused to hold any dialogue with the PLO to arrange the military and civilian presence in Lebanon in accordance with the Cairo agreement signed between the Palestinians and the Lebanese Government in 1969, and the opening of fire on defenseless refugee camp residents reveal the conspiracy's vastness and affirm the evil intentions against these residents, who have been dispersed, tortured, and crucified and whose blood has irrigated all Lebanese soil.

In the face of the expansion of the conspiracy's scope, the PLO yesterday issued an urgent appeal to the Arab League, calling on it to act speedily in order to stop the bloodbath and bloodshed of Palestinians and Lebanese.

While following with anxiety, pain, and anger the fate of our people in the south Lebanese refugee camps, we hope that the Arab League and the friendly countries will hasten to put an end to the massacre of Palestinians in these camps and enter into a dialogue with the Lebanese Government that leads to the signing of an agreement governing the Palestinian civilian and military presence on Lebanese territory.

Reportage on Fact-Finding Visit of UN Emissary

Brunner Visit Called 'Routine'

TA0707064591 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Interview with Yohanan Bein, Foreign Ministry deputy director general, by Li'ora Nir and Gay Zohar; in the studio—live]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Nir] Mr. Bein, what is the real significance of cooperation with the UN envoy?

[Bein] First of all, Mr. Brunner is not a UN envoy; he is an emissary on behalf of the UN secretary general. He himself, as well as the secretary general, defines his mission in this way, as does Resolution 242, which urges the secretary general to dispatch an emissary to the Middle East.

[Nir] Still, what does such cooperation mean?

[Bein] Right now, he is merely coming to get acquainted with the region. He will not only be visiting Israel; he will also travel to Jordan, Egypt, Syria, and Lebanon. His goal is to gain some background, should his assistance be requested in the future. As he said, all he wants is to provide assistance from the wings to American and Israeli efforts to bring about peace in the Middle East. He does not plan to proffer new initiatives.

[Zohar] He is scheduled to meet with the entire leadership of our country to gain a clear picture of Israel's stands. The question is whether this constitutes an admission of the United Nations into the regional conflict—and through the front door, too, one might say.

[Bein] Again, he is the UN secretary general's envoy. With whom would you expect him to meet? He will meet with the prime minister, the foreign and defense ministers, the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee chairman, and the opposition leader. He will hold all these meetings to obtain a full picture of our position on peace and the situation in the region. His meetings do not imply any kind of intervention whatsoever in the process.

[Nir] Mr. Bein, is his arrival significant in any way, or are we making an unnecessary fuss by discussing his visit?

[Bein] We are not making any fuss, you are. The visit is certainly nothing out of the ordinary; in fact, it is almost routine. It is a preparatory stage. The stake of the United Nations and the UN secretary general in this matter is plain. There have been statements indicating that the United Nations wishes to take part in a regional conference, if and when one is held. Our stand is also known and acceptable to the UN secretary general and to

Brunner. We said we would be willing to receive him as the secretary general's envoy and allow him to study the situation in the region, as his predecessors, including Jean-Claude Aime, had done. After the Temple Mount event [October 1990], Aime did not seek any kind of involvement; he came merely to study the situation.

[Zohar] One last question: A report published today—the timing itself is interesting—states that Syria has not shown any readiness to make political concessions. We are still waiting for the Syrian reply to President Bush's letter. Have there been any new developments on this issue?

[Bein] Not that I know of. This does exactly lie within my responsibilities. In any event, I know of no developments. This matter can definitely affect the U.S. stand with regard to the future.

[Zohar] Yohanan Bein, thank you very much for coming to the studio.

Brunner, Levi Meet

TA0707151691 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Report by political correspondent Natan Gutman from the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem]

[Excerpt] The meeting between Foreign Minister David Levi and Edouard Brunner ended a few minutes ago. The suave Swiss observer arrived in Israel yesterday, and has already stated before anybody willing to listen that he did not come here to make recommendations, give guidance, or issue instructions. Israel knows what is best for it, stated Brunner at the end of his meeting with Minister Levi.

[Brunner, in English] So, it's more often an information and fact-finding mission than anything else. I do not wish to interfere in the present peace process which is ongoing, which is sponsored by the United States. My meeting with Foreign Minister Levi today was mainly a meeting to inform myself of the views of the Israeli Government about the state of this process, about the expectations, and about the philosophy. The question of the UN participation or non-participation was not raised. [passage omitted]

Shamir Meets With Brunner

TA0807104991 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says Israel does not believe in international conferences as a means to achieve peace. The prime minister made the comment this morning in a meeting with United Nations envoy Edouard Brunner.

In response, Brunner said he wants Israel and other countries in the region to know that the United Nations is at their disposal if needed. Steve Linde reports.

Prime Minister Shamir said the normal way to reach a peace agreement is by direct negotiations. The problem, Shamir said, is that we have among our neighbors countries, such as Syria, which to this day are not prepared even to recognize Israel or to utter the word peace. Brunner, the Swiss diplomat dispatched to the Middle East by UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, replied that the United Nations does not wish to impose itself, but it is available to play a role in the peace process.

[Begin Brunner recording] If people don't want the United Nations to be part of any negotiations, it is not up to us to impose ourselves. We are only, as we say in French, disponible, at disposal. But there are a certain number of resolutions that exist and that belong, I would say, to the world community, and the world community has asked the United Nations and other countries to try to have them implemented to bring about peace. [end recording]

Brunner leaves Israel tomorrow for Jordan and will go on to Egypt, Syria, and Lebanon.

Arab Paper Hails PLO Step on Joint Delegation

TA0207151191 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 29 Jun 91 pp 1, 7

[Editorial: "An Opportunity That Will Never Recur"]

[Text] In the political efforts currently under way to seek a political settlement to the Middle East crisis, it seems that the Palestinian stance is the only effort marked by flexibility and seriousness.

Despite the fact that the U.S. political actions have reached a dead end due to the intransigent Israeli rejection of all peaceful settlements in the Middle East, and despite the attempt by the Israeli side to liquidate the Palestinian cause, the PLO continues to reiterate its desire for and commitment to a just political solution based on the achievement of the Palestinian people's national rights.

The stand expressed two days ago by al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, Palestine's ambassador to Jordan, with regard to the PLO's acceptance of the concept of a joint and equal rights delegation with Jordan—provided that this acceptance would open the vistas of a settlement and remove any obstacles—reaffirms this real Palestinian desire for peace and throws the ball into the Israeli- U.S. court.

Although this conditional Palestinian stand is a new development, it is doubtful that this will produce a positive change in the Israeli position, whereby it might advance toward accepting a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

Perhaps one who follows the evolutions of the Israeli position cannot find better words to describe it than

those uttered by the Syrian Foreign Minister to NEWSWEEK, who said that Israel has not adopted so intransigent a stance toward peace since its inception. It wants everything for nothing. It wishes to impose a fait accompli policy by continuing the construction of settlements and confiscation of lands and by nullifying Palestinian sovereignty over these lands.

In any event, the Palestinian position, marked by flexibility, seriousness, and a desire to reach a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, places a decisive test before the United States regarding its seriousness in talking about peace as well as its commitment to the principle of "land for peace."

It should be stressed that the current available opportunity for establishing peace will never recur and that squandering this opportunity, by wagering on force and unbridled extremism, will bring further catastrophes to the region.

Nisim on U.S. Loans, Settlement Activity

TA0507074791 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 5 Jul 91 p 1

[ITIM report]

[Text] Tel Aviv—Israel would pursue a "policy of deceit" if it stopped settlement activity, even for a short period, to get U.S. loan guarantees, Industry and Trade Moshe Nisim said yesterday.

The promised U.S. loan guarantees needed to help fund immigrant absorption should not be linked to continued settlement in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, Nisim told a gathering of economics reporters at Bet Sokolov here.

Israel is not an obstacle to peace, because it is ready to speak with all Arab states individually without preconditions, he said. "The Arab states which refuse to speak with Israel are the stubborn ones, because they feel it would look like recognition of Israel's right to exist in the region."

Poll Results on Settlement, Loan

TA0507110591 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 5 Jul 91 p 1

["Special" Smith poll for DAVAR]

[Text] The majority of Israeli citizens believe that the U.S. Administration's loan guarantees for immigrant absorption are more important than continued settlement activity in the territories. The settlement drive should therefore be frozen. These are the findings of a public opinion poll commissioned by DAVAR from the Hanokh and Rafi Smith Institute.

The poll was conducted during the last week of June. It comprised 1,000 men and women who constitute a cross section of the adult Jewish population of Israel.

The interviewees were asked for their response to the following question:

"The United States is making the granting of the $10 billion in loan guarantees, which Israel requires for immigrant absorption, conditional upon the freezing of settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. What do you think Israel should do?"

—Give up the guarantees, because the settlements are more important: 16 percent.

—Freeze the settlements in order not to affect aliyah: 37 percent.

—Try to postpone the implementation of the settlement policy in the hope of reaching a compromise with the administration: 35 percent.

—Other views, no opinion: 12 percent.

Predictably, a link was observed between the individuals' views on the matter and their party affiliation. More than half the Labor Party supporters prefer freezing the settlement momentum in order to receive the immigrant absorption loan guarantees. Among supporters of MAPAM [United Workers Party], the Citizens Rights Movement, and Shinuy, the percentage of people favoring a freeze of the settlement drive reached 75 percent.

ROK Permits Diplomatic Office in Seoul

TA3006103491 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 30 Jun 91 p 1

[Report by political correspondent]

[Excerpts] South Korea has permitted an Israeli diplomat to reside in Seoul and to open an office there, but he will be considered a nonresident diplomat based permanently in Tokyo. South Korea refuses to renew diplomatic relations with Israel for fear of an Arab reaction. The United States has been asked to intervene in the matter.

As a result, South Korea announced that the issue would be discussed immediately after South Korea is accepted by the United Nations. [passage omitted]

Diplomatic relations between the two states were severed 13 years ago when the then Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan decided to close the Israel Embassy in Seoul for budgetary reasons. Since then, South Korea has refused to renew them because of Arab pressures. [passage omitted]

King, Mubarak Discuss Middle East Topics

JN0107202391 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Jul 91

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak exchanged views over the phone tonight on the latest developments in the Middle East and the efforts under way to attain a peaceful settlement for the Middle East issue.

King Congratulates Bush on Independence Day

JN0507111391 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 4 Jul 91

[Text] Amman, 4 Jul (PETRA)—His Majesty King Husayn has sent a cable to U.S. President George Bush congratulating him in his name and in the name of the Government and people of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on U.S. independence day.

In the cable, his majesty expressed hope that the declared U.S. commitment to establishing a just and lasting peace in our region through a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestine question will bring closer our common approach toward a better world.

His majesty added: Your assertion of U.S. commitment to international legitimacy and abidance by the Security Council resolutions consolidates our conviction that peace will prevail in this region.

Comparison of Decree Repealing Martial Law

CM0707193891

Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic at 1800 GMT on 7 July carries the "instructions revoking the martial law administration's instructions," the television version of which was published on p 31 of the 8 July Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT. The radio version has been compared with the television version and found to be identical, except for the following, which constitutes a clarification:

Beginning with the second paragraph in the second column on page 31:

Instructions of Martial Law Administration No. 1 of 1991.

Instructions Revoking the Instructions of the Martial Law Administration, Issued in Accordance With Paragraph Two of Article 125 of the Constitution.

Article I. These instructions shall be called instructions revoking the instructions of the martial law administration of 1991, and shall be effective on the date of their publication in the official gazette.

Article II. Taking into consideration the provisions of Article III of these instructions, all instructions of the martial law administration issued under paragraph two of Article 125 of the Constitution and the amendments made to it will be cancelled.

Article III. Despite the contents of Article II of these instructions and in order to meet the public interest, the current provisions shall remain in force until they are repealed or replaced.

Paper Praises Repeal of Martial Law Instructions

JN0807092191 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 8 Jul 91 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "Revoking the Instructions of the Martial Administration Is an Important Brick in the Democratic Edifice"]

[Text] With yesterday's royal decree approving the Council of Minister's decision to revoke the instructions of the martial administration, our country has made an important step toward expediting building the democratic edifice through strong confidence in the people's ability to absorb the conditions and requirements of democratic life.

In his letter to Prime Minister Tahir al-Masri, His Majesty King Husayn stressed that the democratic edifice which we chose is a general policy and a way of life, and that we wanted the climate of freedom to be a model for the homeland and the nation.

The decision of the Council of Ministers a few days ago in this regard is the first step in principle by al-Masri's government to abrogate martial laws completely. This begins by revoking the instructions of the martial administration, and working to legislate laws to fill the legislative vacuum that would be created by the complete abrogation of martial laws to protect the interest of the homeland and the citizens, and to ensure protection for all those who worked to implement martial law in the past years.

The application of martial laws in our country for more than 24 years had immense negative repercussions on our people's life and their constitutional rights with regard to public liberties. No doubt, removing these repercussions will open wide prospects for the citizens to practice their liberties, unleash their capabilities and excel, and overcome the fear which accompanied the application of martial laws.

If the gradual cancellation of martial laws is a necessary response to pave the way for democracy, other parallel steps remain to be made which the government is active to rapidly accomplish.

The parliament will begin its extraordinary session today. Its agenda is full of topics that would entrench the democratic trend and further consolidate political pluralism. Among the most important topics is discussing and approving the laws of parties, press and publications, and elections.

The government and the parliament are not alone responsible for the democratic march. Rather, it is the national responsibility of all political, party, and popular key figures in addition to all the people. We must hold strongly to this great accomplishment for Jordan to be the model of freedom and democracy as His Majesty King Husayn wants.

Public Protests Urged on U.S. Al-'Aqabah Steps

JN0907093191 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 9 Jul 91 p 22

["With Life and People" column by Nabil al-Sharif: "Courtesy Has Failed, Let's Try Fury"]

[Text] The time has come for our quiet official protests on the U.S. and Atlantic practices against ships heading for al-'Aqabah port to change from the stage of cool political criticism to that of noisy public protests and of submitting complaints to all sides concerned. It is clear that civility and courtesy, which have been characteristic of the official reaction throughout the past months, have not succeeded in shaking the U.S.-Atlantic stand on this issue and have not reduced the effect of the indiscriminate measures on ruining our economy, which has been trying to restore its well-being through determination and perseverence.

Statements by Jordanian shipping officials to an international news agency last night were not the first of their kind. They were, however, the most bitter and strongest so far and call for some concern and for moving from official reactions to a different and serious stage. The shipping officials said that the U.S. and Atlantic practices have begun to hamper the arrival of raw materials for Jordanian industrial products. They have been doing so for many weeks and months. In addition, they are markedly harming Jordanian export transactions and frustrating Jordanian industry's efforts to expand and break into new markets. The U.S. and Atlantic forces' fleets have started to become creative in making things difficult for ships bound for al-'Aqabah. They stop them for a long time under the pretext of searching them. They open up all the containers, which causes the ships to lose balance and threatens their safety. Very often, these ships are forced to head for neighboring ports to unload their cargoes.

As a result, some international shipping companies are now refusing to send their ships to the Red Sea. Other companies have resorted to imposing a "search fine" on ships bound for al-'Aqabah. This is a fine which is charged to the Jordanian importer, of course, and consequently, the Jordanian consumer.

At a time when all this U.S. and Atlantic disregard for the sovereignty of our country is taking place, when they tighten the belt on our imports and besiege our exports, our official response continues to be confined to closed rooms and minor diplomatic corridors. Undoubtedly, it would be useful for us to inform the foreign ministers of the five permament members of the Security Council about our extreme anger regarding these measures and to confirm the need to lift the illegitimate and unjustified siege on al-'Aqabah. This problem will not end except by making our voice, which rejects these measures, heard by all and beginning to solve the problem by moving from the stage of quiet protests to the stage of loud wrath.

It is our right to ask, in a loud and clear voice: Why are these Atlanticists punishing our country now? Why are they singling out Jordan and applying these unjust, harmful, and indiscriminate measures only on it? What has our citizen done to have to fight for his daily bread? What harm are we inflicting on the interests of the U.S. and its allies for this unjust siege to continue on our port, for this oppressive grip on our economic dealings to be tightened, and for this organized obstruction of our imports and exports to continue?

Things have come to a head and silence is no longer acceptable for dealing with this issue. The American and Atlantic arrogance has reached the level of tampering with the bread of the Jordanian citizen through provocative and supercilious measures that have no justification whatsoever.

When things reach this stage, what is needed is to confront this arrogance with an equivalent amount of frankness and confrontation. We have not committed a sin or crime for us to deserve this threat to our sovereignty and national and food security. If the Atlanticists are trying to terrorize us with these practices, the least we can do is raise our voices in complaint and reverberate our absolute rejection of this indiscrimnate provocation and this totally unjustified superciliousness toward our economy and sovereignty.

U.S. Urged To Stop 'Belligerence' Against Iraq

JN0907082191 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 9 Jul 91 pp 1, 14

[Editorial: "Threats To Attack Iraq and Dilute the Peace Process]

[Text] At the same time that the United States is providing Israeli belligerence with a political cover in connection with the peace efforts in the region and is remaining quiet about the way Shamir's government is diluting the peace process and rejecting any UN role in it, it is, through statements by ranking officials, foremost President Bush, creating pretexts for aggression on Iraq and threatening to do so publicly.

Despite the fact that Iraq has responded to all international resolutions, reaffirmed its commitment to them once more, and pledged to follow them to the letter, irrespective of its opinion on these resolutions since they are unjust and oppressive, the U.S. Administration still doubts the honesty of Iraq's intentions and creates pretexts to mislead world public opinion into thinking that Iraq is still concealing nuclear secrets. The United States is exploiting its political hegemony over the countries of the world and monopolizing international decisions in view of the state of imbalance caused by the Soviet retreat.

The day before yesterday, Iraq submitted a new list of the nuclear equipment it owns. It handed the list to the United Nations. UN sources stated that the new list contains sufficient information and conceals none of Iraq's nuclear secrets, as the U.S. Administration claims.

What is the U.S. objective? We believe it is necessary for U.S. belligerence to be curbed. We also believe that its continuing aggression on the fraternal Iraqi people through its threats to attack Iraq and keep the oppressive, unjustified siege imposed on it even after Iraq had accepted so-called international legitimacy, should be stopped. Its flagrant intervention in Iraq's internal affairs through an illegitimate military presence in northern Iraq and pressure to thwart negotiations on Iraqi Kurdistan's autonomy so that it and its allies can continue to play the Kurdish card as they please to realize their aggressive interests should also be halted.

The U.S. Administration should take its hand off Iraq and stop practicing the policy of belligerence and arrogance. It should lift the siege and direct its efforts to the application of international legitimacy to the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict by seriously pressuring its strategic ally, Israel, to accept a comprehensive and just solution rather than paying lip service to the Arabs that is entirely void of content, and good only for public consumption and for absorbing the popular Arab anger over its policy.

This cannot be done if those Arabs who are still watching the tragic drama of the U.S. massacre of Iraq fail to take a responsible and official stand. Will the Arabs ever wake up from their deep sleep?

Li Peng Cables Thanks to King Husayn

JN0807114191 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has received the following cable of thanks from Chinese Premier Li Peng at the end of his visit to Jordan: Your Majesty King Husayn Bin-Talal, monarch of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. At the conclusion of my official visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, which was crowned with complete success, and upon departing your country, it pleases me on behalf of my colleagues and myself to extend to your majesty and to the friendly Jordanian people through you our deep appreciation and sincerest thanks for the warm welcome and great hospitality accorded to us by your majesty and the Jordanian people.

Although our visit to Jordan was short, it was fruitful. It has left beautiful and profound impressions in our minds. We shall return to China gladly carrying the feelings of amity and affection the Jordanian people have toward the Chinese people. I wish your country progress and prosperity and your people happiness, and wish your majesty continued good health.

'Text' of Political Parties 'Draft Law'

JN0607104791 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 6 Jul 91 p 3

["Text" of the Political Parties Draft Law of 1991 currently being discussed by the cabinet "prior to submitting it to Parliament during its forthcoming emergency session"]

[Text]

Article I

This law shall be called the Political Parties Law of 1991. It shall be valid one month after it has been published in the official gazette.

Article II

Unless the text stipulates otherwise, the following words and terms will have the meanings affixed next to each one of them:
The Ministry: the Interior Ministry.
The minister: the interior minister.
The party: The organization formed in accordance with the provisions of this law.
The Court: The Supreme Court of Justice.

Article III

Jordanians have the right to form or identify with political parties in accordance with the principles, rules, and conditions stipulated in this law.

Article IV

A party shall not proclaim its establishment or carry out any activities unless the minister announces its formation in accordance with the provisions of this law. No foundation, authority, or association shall practice the work and activities of political parties to promote the aims for which these parties are established.

Article V

A party is any organization comprising Jordanian citizens in accordance with the provisions of this law whose aim is joint work to participate in political life and endeavor to participate in the government to realize specific programs related to the state's political, economic, and social affairs in accordance with the rules of democratic practice based on political pluralism, freedom of thought, and supremacy of the law.

Article VI

A. An application for establishing a party shall be submitted to the Interior Ministry along with the following statements and documents:
1. An application for establishing the party signed by 50 citizens who meet the conditions stipulated in Article VII of this law.
2. Three copies of the party's bylaws.

3. A list of the founding members, the places where they were born, the dates of their birth, their occupations, and their addresses.
4. A photostat copy of the birth certificate of each founding member or a photostat copy of their civil registration card.
5. An attested statement showing that they have not been legally convicted.

B. Five of the founding members shall sign the application in the presence of the special officer designated by the minister, attesting to the veracity of the signatures of all the founding members and the statements pertaining to them. These five persons or anyone of them will be authorized to submit statements and documents and receive letters and notifications on behalf of all the founding members.

C. The special officer shall issue notifications acknowledging receipt of the application and the attached documents, noting the date the application was submitted, and announcing the completion of the documentation and the signatures by those mentioned in paragraph B of this article.

Article VII

A. Founding members can change any documents or statements within two weeks from the date of the notification that the application has been received. The minister can ask for any clarification or completion of documents which he deems necessary for the application to be in compliance with the legal terms through a letter to this effect.

B. The letter shall be conveyed to one of the founding members mentioned in Paragraph B of Article VI of this law by one of the ministry's employees or the nearest police station within one month as of the date of receiving the application.

C. One of the founding members mentioned in Paragraph B of Article VI shall provide clarifications and the required documents within two weeks of receiving the letter. The special officer shall issue a notification that the letter has been received. In the notification, the officer shall note the name of the founding member who submitted the documents and statements, as well as the date they are received.

Article VIII

A. The minister shall declare the party established two months after the date of receiving the application or within two weeks from the date of receiving the documents noted in Paragraph C of Article VI. This shall be published in the official gazette if the application fully meets the legal terms.

B. In case the party established is not declared established by the minister after the lapse of the period noted in Paragraph A of this article, the minister should explain the reasons for not declaring that, through a statement he issues for this purpose; he should also inform the founding members.

Article IX

A. The founding members have the right to appeal against the minister's decision at the Supreme Court of Justice within 30 days as of the date of receiving the decision.

B. The Court shall issue a decision accepting or rejecting the appeal within 60 days as of the date the appeal has been registered at the Court's office. The Court's decision shall be final.

C. To look into the appeal, the Court has to be convened by at least five judges.

D. If the Court decides to accept the appeal, the minister shall declare that and will publish an announcement to this effect in the official gazette.

Article X

A founding member of the party must meet the following conditions:

A. Must be a Jordanian citizen for at least 10 years.

B. At least 25 years old.

C. No final verdict has been issued against him in a moral crime or misdemeanor.

D. Must enjoy civilian status.

E. Must usually reside in Jordan.

F. Must not claim a foreign citizenship or protection.

G. Must not be a member of any non-Jordanian political establishment or organization.

H. Must not be a an officer or a member of the Armed Forces, Public Security organs, or the Civil Defense, and must not be a member of the judiciary.

Article XI

A party's bylaws must include mention of the following:

A. The party's name and motto. The name of a party must not be similar to or the same as any other party.

B. The party's headquarters and all branches must be within the kingdom and should not be part of any public, charitable, religious, production, or educational establishment.

C. The principles and aims on which the party is based and the programs and methods by which it seeks to realize these aims.

D. Terms of party membership and the rules and procedures to join the party. These conditions must not contain restrictive or discriminatory clauses preventing

anyone from joining the party because of religion, sect, sex, race, region, or social status.

E. The methods and measures to form the party's departments, to select the leadership, to begin activities, to establish relations between the party and its members, which should be on a democratic basis, and to specify the political, organizational, financial, and administrative work of the party's departments.

F. The party's financial regulations, with specifics on financial resources and rules and principles governing expenditure, and on the preparation and approval of the party's budget.

G. Rules and procedures for voluntary dissolution or merger of the party and for the organization of its liquidation, and the party to receive the funds resulting from its liquidation.

H. A commitment to the rules and principles stipulated in this law.

Article XII

The party shall enjoy legal person [al-shakhsiyah al-i'tibariyah] status. It will be represented by the party president or the secretary general, if the party's bylaws stipulate such a post, in all party affairs before the law and in countering charges filed by others. The party's representative may designate in writing one or more from among the other party officers in executing his duties.

Article XIII

A party shall enjoy the following rights and privileges:

A. The party's headquarters and branches will be exempted from all government taxes and fees. Its funds and the revenues of its investments shall be exempted from taxes and fees.

B. The party's funds will be considered public funds when penal code regulations are applied. Those who run the party's affairs and those working in the party will be regarded as public servants when the rules of the above code are applied. The party's leadership will be subject to the regulations of the Unlawful Profits Act.

C. Except in the case of flagrante delicto, party buildings shall not be searched unless in the presence and with the agreement of the public prosecutor.

D. Each party has the right to publish a newspaper or a weekly or monthly magazine to express its opinion in accordance with rules of the Press and Publications Law with the exception of matters related to the newspaper's capital and employees.

E. The party can invest its funds and resources as it deems fit provided the aim is not to realize profits or promote the private interests of party leaders.

Article XIV

A party shall abide by the following principles and rules when practicing its activity, and its bylaws and programs must so stipulate in an unequivocal manner not admitting interpretation:

A. It shall respect the Constitution and its constants, and work to respect and defend it.

B. It shall respect the supremacy of the law and the precedence of right.

C. It shall respect pluralism in thought, opinion, and organization, and work to provide the requirements for democratic competition and its legitimate means.

D. Its objectives, provisions, and principles must be legitimate and in line with the Constitution, and the means to achieve its objectives must be peaceful.

E. It shall renounce all forms of extremism and religious, sectarian, ethnic, or ideological discrimination and intellectual terrorism, and adopt free dialogue as a basis for democratic competition.

F. It shall safeguard the civilian and democratic character of the state and consider any attempt to annul this character a false, illegitimate act.

G. It shall practice equality and justice and afford equal opportunities among all citizens without discrimination.

H. It shall work to entrench the values of tolerance, objectivity, and respect for others' beliefs, and refrain from narrow personal disputes and defamation of individuals or bodies when engaging in political activity.

I. It shall respect the basic liberties of citizens and protect their dignity, freedom, and right to self-expression.

J. Its leadership and members must not be organizationally or financially associated with any non-Jordanian group, and party and organizational activity must not be guided by orders or directives from any foreign state or party.

K. It shall abide by the principle of equality and equal opportunities among all citizens and adopt legal competence [al-kifayah al-ahliyah] as a basic criterion for appointment in public institutions in case the party takes over or participates in ministerial responsibility.

L. The party or organization must refrain in formation, activities, and direction from recruitment or polarization among the ranks of the Jordanian Armed Forces, the security organs, and the judiciary.

M. The party, and its various groupings, must have one or more declared headquarters for its branches.

N. The party must not employ state institutions, departments, agencies, and other public, charitable, educational, and religious organizations, or use them to

advance party or organization interests. It must pledge not to embroil these institutions in any political or party conflict.

O. The party must depend in its financial resources on local known Jordanian resources that are declared and specified. Donations to a party by a single individual or organization must not exceed 5,000 dinars.

P. The party must adopt democratic methods in its internal organization and in choosing leaders and practicing activities within the framework of democratic dialogue, rules of democratic practice, and free competition, and respect others' opinions when dealing with other political parties and organizations and popular and constitutional institutions.

Q. The party must adopt the principle of openness and disclosure of its principles, objectives, methods, groupings, and leaders.

R. The party must refrain from cooperating with any political parties, organizations, groups, or forces that are founded on hostility or opposition to the principles, rules, and provisions stipulated in the Constitution.

Article XV

A. The party must file a memorandum with the Ministry's secretariat and receive a note documenting this fact to advise the Ministry of any decision it issues to change its president, dissolve or merge the party, change leaders, or introduce amendments to bylaws, within 10 days from the issuance of the decision or the introduction of the change.

B. The minister or any person he authorizes has the right to take note of the party's accounts and audit its financial records and budget.

C. The party must submit to the Ministry a copy of its annual budget and a statement showing revenues and the source of funds, and financial status.

Article XVI

A. The party must keep a special record at its main headquarters containing the following information:

1. The basic system of the party and the names of the founders and members of the leadership.
2. The names of the members of the party.
3. A record of the decisions of the leadership.
4. A detailed record of the party's revenues and expenses.

B. The minister or anyone who deputizes for him has the right to take note of this record at all times.

Article XVII

A. Based on a recommendation from the minister, the Council of Ministers has the right to dissolve the party and liquidate its funds in the following cases:

1. If the party forgoes any condition for the establishment of parties as stipulated in this law.
2. If the party commits a clear, definite violation of the basic principles and guidelines governing the activity of political parties.
3. If it is proven that the party had directly or indirectly received foreign financial support.
4. If a final verdict is issued convicting the leadership of the party of crimes pertaining to the violation of national unity or public trust, or crimes pertaining to the internal and external security of the state.
5. If the number of members falls under 1,000 after the lapse of the first year of establishment.

B. The decision dissolving the party shall be communicated to the president of the party or his representative in accordance with the procedure noted above.

Article XVIII

A. The president of the party or any three of its leaders can contest the decision dissolving the party at the Supreme Court of Justice.

B. They can also ask the Court to suspend the decision dissolving the party temporarily, and the Court, in turn, has the right to issue a decision to stop the procedure to dissolve the party after examining the contestation of the decision to dissolve the party, or to reject the contestation according to the measures which it deems appropriate.

C. The Court, or at least five judges, shall meet to examine the contestation.

Article XIX

The Ministry shall keep a record of the names of all political parties, the center of operation, objectives, leaders, and any additional information the minister deems necessary.

Article XX

Violations and penalties:

A. Any party member who commits the following violations of any of the provisions of this law shall be punished with a maximum of five years' imprisonment:

1. Direct or indirect contact with foreign quarters or agents with the objective of undermining security, disturbing public order, or harming the country's political and economic conditions.
2. Engaging in political propaganda in the interest of foreign parties with the objective of undermining the interests of the kingdom or the nation and its impregnability.
3. Providing, presenting, or enabling foreign quarters or agents to obtain secret documents or information related to the political, diplomatic, military, or economic fields.
4. Undermining the nation's morale with the objective of disturbing public order, spreading chaos, or encroaching on the state's internal or external security.

[No number as published] Receiving monies from a foreign side either directly or indirectly, irrespective of

the form or method, for his own personal account or the account of the party. The penalty also includes attempts to receive these monies or to start to actually receive them.

B. A party member who commits the above violations shall be tried according to the above listed penalties or the penalites stipulated in the criminal code, whichever is stronger.

C. Anyone violating the provisions of this law, with the exception of the violations and crimes stipulated in Paragraph A of this article, will serve a prison sentence ranging from one month to three years and will pay a fine ranging between 1,000 and 5,000 Jordanian dinars, or either of the two. In the case of a repeat offense, the punishment will be doubled.

D. Anyone participating directly or indirectly in keeping, re-forming, or forming a political party not licensed according to this law, or which was dissolved previously, will serve a prison sentence ranging from one year to three years and will pay a fine ranging between 5,000 and 20,000 Jordanian dinars, or either of the two.

Article XXI

Political Parties Law No. 15/1955 is canceled, as is any other legislation to the extent that it contradicts the provisions of this law.

Article XXII

The prime minister and ministers are entrusted with the task of implementing the provisions of this law.

Reportage on Collection of Palestinians' Weapons

Only Army To Carry Arms

NC0407194091 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 4 Jul 91

[Text] Army Commander General Emile Lahhud has stated that the Lebanese Army alone has the right to carry arms to protect the people and homeland. During a meeting with military officers and soldiers in Sidon and nearby areas, he said that strict instructions have been issued to the Army to treat the citizens with respect.

Government Ultimatum on Weapons

NC0507141591 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1305 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] Zayd Wahbah, the PLO representative in Lebanon, has said that the Lebanese Government has given the PLO 48 hours to empty the Sidon camps of all heavy- and medium-caliber weapons under the Lebanese Army's supervision. Wahbah said that the weapons will remain PLO property and that the group is free to transfer them outside Lebanon or to other Lebanese areas far from the borders with the Israeli enemy.

PLO Official on Ultimatum

NC0507194191 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] PLO representative Zayd Wahbah has said that Palestinian weapons might be sent outside Lebanon and that some 6,000 Palestinian fighters might be evacuated from the country. Wahbah noted that the Lebanese Government gave the PLO 48 hours to collect medium- and heavy-caliber weapons under Lebanese Army supervision and transport them outside the camps. The deadline expires at 1900 on 6 July. In remarks to AFP, Wahbah said that these weapons will remain the property of the PLO which is free to transport them out of Lebanon or to move them to their Lebanese areas far from the border with Israel.

Weapons Collection Under Way

NC0607094391 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] Minister 'Abdallah al-Amin has told our radio that the collection of heavy- and medium-caliber weapons outside the camps began at 0900 today and will be completed by 1300. He added that he has contacted the Palestinian side, influential figures in Sidon, and the Lebanese Army, and that the process is proceeding smoothly and positively.

PLO Weapons to Tunisia, al-Biqa'

NC0607095791 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] Abu-Fadi Hammad, member of the Palestinian National Salvation Front, has announced that all Palestinian groups except the PLO will transfer their weapons to designated areas in al-Biqa'. He added that the PLO's weapons will be transported to Tunisia by sea. He indicated that the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine will stand alongside the Lebanese Army in confronting Israel so as to implement Resolution 425. He said that the camps have been placed under the protection of the Lebanese Army.

PLO Unable To Meet Deadline

NC0607101791 Paris AFP in English 0959 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] Sidon, July 5 [date as received] (AFP)—The Palestine Liberation Organisation will be unable to meet a Lebanese Government deadline to remove weapons from Palestinian camps by late Saturday, a PLO official said here. "Gathering the weapons will not take place today or tomorrow for technical reasons," said Zayd Wahbah, the PLO representative in Lebanon. "We've agreed on this with the Lebanese government," he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Under an Arab-brokered Lebanese peace accord, the government had ordered the PLO to remove all its heavy and medium weapons from the 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah wa Miyah camps on the eastern outskirts of Sidon by 1600 GMT.

An army officer in charge of the operation said "there was no question of delaying the gathering up of weapons. We clearly notified PLO officials," he added.

The PLO must remove weapons from the camps and stock them elsewhere in Lebanon or take them out of the country, under the peace agreement designed to disband militias and restore central government authority in the country.

Earlier this year, Christian and Muslim militias bowed to similar government orders and evacuated their weapons from Beirut and adjoining areas, with huge arsenals turned in to Lebanese troops as well as Syrian soldiers in Lebanon.

[Paris AFP in English at 1127 on 6 July in an 'Ayn al-Hulwah datelined item attributed to Nagib Khazzaka adds: "Mr. Wahbah, speaking in an interview from 'Ayn al-Hulwah, said the PLO had not decided where to store the weapons but he ruled out their transfer abroad, one day after suggesting such a possibility. 'It is out of the question. They must be where we can reach them to ensure maintenance,' he said. Mr. Wahbah said the weapons could be collected elsewhere in the Sidon region or in other parts of Lebanon."]

Minister on Weapons Collection

NC0607180991 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] Minister 'Abdallah al-Amin has stated that it is natural that the government will not begin a political dialogue with the Palestinians as long as they maintain a

military presence contrary to the state's will. He emphasized that such a political dialogue cannot take place before the security issue is settled, and he explained that after this is done, when a dialogue begins with the Palestinians, it will be handled like any other talks with any other Arab country.

Al-Amin added that the state will establish its authority, and anyone who opposes it will be regarded as an outlaw. He said: We will not accept mediation between such a party and the state.

Minister al-Amin stressed that the state wants to establish sovereignty on its territories and that it is concerned with the welfare of the homeland, the citizens, and all residents on its territory. He said the future will demonstrate this.

In an interview with the Voice of Lebanon, al-Amin said that the government will not allow any anomalous situation to exist on Lebanese territories, both with regard to security or in any other sphere. He said there can be no reason for allowing any exceptions to this or to permit a case that cannot be handled by state authority.

Al-Amin added that the state, in accordance with the cabinet's decisions, soon will enter the Palestinian camps and all other areas. He announced that what has been applied to Lebanese groups will be applied to the non-Lebanese. He noted that the current government is the first one that has been committed to specific dates to implement its programs. He declared: We have become accustomed to this.

Al-Amin announced that the government has begun intensive contacts with the United States in connection with establishing state authority over the Jazzin area.

Regarding the collection and handover of the weapons, al-Amin said:

[Begin recording] [Al-Amin] The implementation of this matter has begun and the deadline to hand over heavy- and medium-caliber weapons will end within hours. The collection will be from all areas, inside and outside the camps. A few hours remain until the deadline, when all weapons will be collected.

[Unidentified correspondent] Specifically today? What time is the deadline?

[Al-Amin] Today. I believe we gave a period of 24 hours, but there has been some delay in completing the deployment. The deployment should have been completed by 0700 yesterday. It was delayed until after 1000. Very few hours separate us from completing the handover of all the heavy- and medium-caliber weapons of the Palestinian brothers. An agreement on this was reached with them. There is currently no Palestinian confrontation with certain Lebanese parties. There can never be a Palestinian confrontation with certain Lebanese parties after today. The Lebanese state is establishing its authority. Anyone who opposes the state is an outlaw. We cannot possibly allow a mediator to come between the state and an outlaw. Otherwise, any outlaw in any Arab country will require a mediator to resolve his problems. [end recording]

Defense Ministry on Weapons Transfer

NC0707061791 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Text] The Defense Ministry's Information Department issued the following statement a short while ago:

In pursuance of the Army deployment in Sidon and the imposition of legitimate authority there, motorized and foot patrols have been under way along the city's roads and in its neighborhoods since 0630 today. Military units have also set up roadblocks to deter any show of force. The Army continues to carry out its mission with no impediments.

Meanwhile, security sources in Sidon have said that the weapons of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine will be transported to al-Biqa' within the next few hours. Those of the Fatah Movement, however, will remain in a Sidon suburb under the Army's custody, the sources added. Other sources said that a plan is being discussed to transfer the PLO fighters from Sidon to al-Biqa' and points outside Lebanon.

Defense Minister Comments

NC0707142791 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Excerpts] Defense Minister Michel al-Murr told the Voice of Lebanon today that Lebanon has begun contacts with Washington to facilitate the Army's entry into Jazzin, and that the Army's command in al-Yarzi has begun contacts with the Lebanese Army in Jazzin for the same purpose. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Al-Murr] The handing over of weapons began at 1930 yesterday. A large quantity was handed over to the Army. This quantity was moved to al-Bramiyah area, which was designated as the place for storing the weapons under the Army's guard. According to our information, there are more weapons in the camps which should be surrendered. The responsible officers will submit a list to Minister 'Abdallah al-Amin today so he can contact the officials in the camps to tell them to surrender the remaining weapons. All the heavy- and medium-caliber weapons are supposed to be surrendered to the Army, which will guard them. This is what happened last night. To demonstrate the legitimate authority's positive attitude, I instructed the military police to release all those who were questioned and who proved they have not opened fire on or resisted the Lebanese Army during its deployment. Indeed, the military police have released 67 detainees, the majority of whom are Palestinians.

Today at 0600, the Army began cleaning the streets of old Sidon—cleaning does not mean removing the rubbish; it means raiding offices and centers to check for weapons. The Army will continue this operation in Sidon all day today so that there will be no more weapons or gunmen. This, in short, is the situation.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. Minister, you said that there are still weapons inside the camps. Is there any dispute over them or are there obstacles to their surrender?

[Al-Murr] They are saying they have no more weapons. The security information we have indicates more weapons remain. Therefore, we will submit to them lists in accordance with the information we have. It is not that there are more weapons and they are saying they will not surrender them; they are saying they do not have any more. The security services have prepared lists on the weapons which exist in the camps. The lists will be submitted to Minister 'Abdallah al-Amin as a member of the ministerial liaison committee to be submitted to the persons responsible for the organizations and to tell them that these are the weapons which should be surrendered.

[Reporter] You have collected and are collecting the heavy- and medium-caliber weapons. You suspect weapons remain in the camps. What is going to happen concerning the light weapons?

[Al-Murr] We will submit a proposal to the cabinet on the light weapons in all of Lebanon, not just in the camps. As you know, light weapons exist in all of Lebanon. Everyone in Lebanon considers a pistol or an automatic weapon a piece of furniture. If we were to enter every house and seize such weapons, we would make everyone angry, and they would perhaps feel that part of their security had been taken away from them. Therefore, we will submit a proposal to the cabinet on this. The proposal is not completely clear to me yet. All I know is that the weapons should be collected. We are still considering how to do that so as not to anger the people.

[Reporter] Mr. Minister, who possesses the authority inside the camps?

[Al-Murr] The Lebanese Army. There is no authority anywhere on Lebanese territory except that of the Lebanese Army—that is to say, the legitimate authority whose orders are being implemented by the Lebanese Army.

[Reporter] If there is a dispute between two Palestinians, to whom will they turn?

[Al-Murr] They are supposed to solve matters between themselves inside the camps. Since the Palestinians want someone to be responsible for their security, the Lebanese Army will be responsible for the security of all the citizens. If there is a dispute between two Lebanese people, they go to the police. If there is a dispute between two Palestinians inside the camps, they are supposed to have a service to tackle the security situation inside the camp. We, as the Lebanese Army, will not enter the camps; we will not enter by force; we will not enter the camps and impose our authority. Since they will no longer possess heavy weapons, we will be responsible for their security. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] If there is a dispute between a Lebanese and a Palestinian, how will it be resolved? Do you not think that there will be some friction?

[Al-Murr] Initially the Lebanese Army will be responsible for security and will prevent friction. It will not check the identity of individuals, whether they are Lebanese, Palestinian, or anyone else. The Army is now responsible for security and will deal with such cases. This is until the Internal Security Forces are sufficiently reinforced and assume their role in the police stations.

[Reporter] There is a humanitarian issue which I would like to ask you about. What will be the fate of Palestinians who are occupying Lebanese houses? Are there Lebanese people who have begun demanding their houses back?

[Al-Murr] Generally speaking, the Palestinians have vacated all the houses which they occupied outside the camps. When the Army deployed, it did not leave gunmen or non-Lebanese people in the houses. They all returned to the camps. All the houses in the villages which had been occupied by non-Lebanese will be returned to their owners very soon. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Mr. Minister, when will Jazzin's turn come?

[Al-Murr] I think that it is near now. I think that contacts have begun between the Defense Ministry and our army in Jazzin and on the diplomatic level. The foreign minister was supposed to have begun contacts with the United States. I think that the U.S. ambassador's visit to the presidential palace yesterday had something to do with this subject. Therefore, diplomatic and field contacts have begun so that the army in Jazzin can link up with its mother Army. The two will be near each other, and they should not have a green line separating them. [end recording]

Al-Amin on Weapons Collection

NC0707163391 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Text] The national and Islamic grouping held a meeting at noon today at the home of Engineer Mustafa Sa'd, leader of the Nasirite Popular Organization. Representatives of all influential forces, Ministers Shawqi Fakhuri and 'Abdallah al-Amin, and PLO representatives attended. The purpose of the meeting was to deal with the ramifications of the Army's deployment in Sidon and its environs and to follow up the issue of the detainees and the completion of the weapons handover.

After the meeting, Minister 'Abdallah al-Amin said that the conferees reached a conclusive and decisive agreement on the collection of heavy- and medium-caliber

weapons. He said: We agreed to avoid problems in the future. He asserted the desire to continue meetings with the influential forces in Sidon and the camps. He addressed the camp residents, saying that they are safe and that the Lebanese Government is fully responsible for their stability, freedom, and their right to work. He added that they are our kinfolk and partners in the same destiny.

He pointed out that the political dialogue with the Palestinian officials will be conducted at later stages. He dismissed concluding a new agreement and said that the first agreement with the brother Palestinians still stands. He announced that a new group of detainees will be freed today.

Asked about the Jazzin question, he said that Jazzin is a cherished part of this homeland and that the government is using all means to complete the Army's deployment in it. God willing, the next step will be in Jazzin, he added.

Army Receives 97 Percent of Weapons

NC0807060891 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] The Army will continue to consolidate security and stability in Sidon and its eastern suburbs today. It has received 97 percent of the heavy- and medium-caliber weapons and the remainder will be handed over today. The Army detained about 100 people in the old neighborhoods of Sidon during its search campaign yesterday.

PLO Weapons Handover Complete

NC0807111691 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] The Lebanese Army today completed collecting the remaining large- and medium-caliber weapons in 'Ayn al-Hulwah and al-Miyah wa Miyah camps. An AFP report cited a Lebanese military source as saying that the Palestinians still possess a large number of weapons. Meetings between the ministerial committee and the Palestinian leadership will continue to ensure that the weapons' handover is complete. Normalcy has returned to Sidon. Most shops, banks, and establishments have resumed work.

DFLP Leader on Location of Weapons

NC0807164391 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], has stressed that the Lebanese Army's deployment in Sidon will not necessarily seal off southern Lebanon from the weapons of those resisting the Israeli occupiers. He said that the Palestinian and Lebanese resistance have their own ways to remove Israel from southern Lebanon. Hawatimah said that the Palestinian organizations in Sidon, including the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the DFLP, have decided to move the heavy- and medium-caliber weapons to al-Biqa'.

Al-Hirawi on Weapons Handover

NC0907062191 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] According to people who recently visited President Ilyas al-Hirawi, he has said that he is determined to impose the state's authority over all Lebanese territory. The president said: We strongly reject the presence of a statelet within our state or any armed group other than the Lebanese Army.

President al-Hirawi added: The Higher Defense Council has met and has adopted a number of irrevocable decisions. We have set a time limit for collecting the Palestinian weapons in order to avoid any obstacles and have demanded that all weapons in the Lebanese Palestinian camps be handed over to the Lebanese Army. President al-Hirawi praised the Army's capability and unity and said that the Army's accomplishments in the south would enhance his credibility when he visits the United Nations at the end of September.

Army, Palestinian Gunmen Clash in South

NC0307170091 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 3 Jul 91

[Excerpts] According to the latest reports about the fighting in the south, clashes are continuing between Palestinian gunmen and the Lebanese Army. The clashes are raging in one front after another and one township after another. Security sources told our radio that the fighting ceases in an area only after the Army assumes full control.

The latest report indicates that the clashes ceased at about 1800 today after the Army consolidated control over the al-Ashrafiyah hill and al-Miyah wa Miyah township following artillery duels on various al-Miyah wa Miyah fronts. Shells fell on Ma'ruf Sa'd Boulevard, Tallat al-Rahibat, and other residential areas in Sidon. One shell hit al-Shuhada' Square in the city where a family from the al-Rih clan lives. The owner of the house was killed and his wife and five other family members, including two children, were injured. The bombardment also hit the Hayy al-Ta'amir and al-Furn al-'Arabi circle areas. Some shells landed in the sea. The intensive shelling closed the main road from Sidon to the south.

Clashes are also continuing on the front of Mar Ilyas, al-Fawwar, Sirub, the Officers' Club, and Boys High School entering 'Ayn al- Hulwah. Mortars and heavy machine guns are being used in the fighting. [passage omitted]

Security reports indicate that 245 Palestinians captured by the Lebanese Army have been transferred to the military police post in Rumyah. The detainees will be interrogated and referred to a military court. [passage omitted]

Our correspondent in the south visited the area at noon today and supplied us with the following dispatch:

[Begin unidentified correspondent recording] According to all indications, the military conflict between the Lebanese Army and the Palestinian fighters is not over yet. Intermittent clashes, which flare up and cease, continue to rage on all fronts adjacent to the Palestinian camps, particularly on the entrance of 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp opposite the Lebanese Army's Muhammad Zughayb Barracks. The Lebanese Army is being reinforced with vehicles and troops. A large number of Palestinian fighters are deployed inside the camps and at their entrances. They are building military fortifications that indicate they are preparing for a long battle.

A senior military official from 'Arafat's Fatah Movement said that everything now hinges on the ongoing talks about a political dialogue between the Lebanese state and the PLO. He said that if the dialogue becomes deadlocked, a fresh military eruption cannot be ruled out. He added that this military escalation might extend to other Palestinian camps in the south, particularly in the Tyre area. The Palestinian official said that the Palestinian forces are defending their positions and have not initiated any attack on Lebanese Army positions so that they would not be accused of obstructing the Army deployment. He noted, however, that if the Army continues to bring military pressure on the camps, that situation will change.

The Palestinian official said he believes that what is being implemented now is the U.S.-Israeli part of the al-Ta'if agreement which aims to disarm the Palestinians and remove the PLO from the Middle East political scene. He said: This is why we have no alternative other than confrontation. [end recording]

Army Repels Attack

NC0307192991 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1918 GMT 3 Jul 91

[Text] We have just received the following information from our newsdesk. According to the latest security report from the Sidon area received a short time ago, the Lebanese Army has repulsed an attack by Palestinian fighters near the Officers' Club. The Army launched a counterattack and controls the club area. Intermittent clashes are currently taking place in the club area and on nearby combat lines.

Clashes East of Sidon Abate

NC0407053391 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 4 Jul 91

[Text] Tension prevails in the areas around the Palestinian camps in the Sidon district. Intermittent exchanges of rocket and machine gun fire have been taking place between the Army positions and the Palestinians in these areas.

The heavy clashes that took place last night began to abate at 2300 yesterday. The clashes later intensified but then gradually abated. The heavy clashes began after 1900 yesterday. An Army statement spoke of a Palestinian attack against the officers' houses and club in Sidon. A second statement was issued later which said the attack was repulsed and the Army inflicted heavy losses in life and equipment on the attackers. The Defense Ministry denied that any military personnel have been taken prisoner by the Palestinians, as Palestinian sources had claimed.

The Palestinian groups spoke of heavy artillery shelling directed at the 'Ayn al-Hulwah and al-Miyah wa Miyah camps last night causing casualties. The shelling last night extended to residential neighborhoods in Sidon causing damage and some civilian casualties.

Sidon was paralyzed almost completely yesterday for the third day in a row because of the clashes.

Army Repulses Infiltration

NC0607100491 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] According to a security report from east Sidon, the Lebanese Army repulsed a Palestinian attempt to infiltrate 'A'ishah school in Sidon at 0315 today. The report added that machine gun and rocket fire was exchanged and that the Palestinians eventually withdrew. The Lebanese Army sustained no casualties.

'Occupation Forces' Shell Village

NC0607194591 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] The occupation forces directed a number of artillery shells at Yatar from their positions on Humayd hill. They also raked the western woods of Yatar with heavy caliber machine gun fire.

Meanwhile, the Amal Movement has announced that the occupation forces are still imposing a tight siege on Bint Jubayl, Blida, and 'Ayta al-Sha'b. The occupation forces entered Bint Jubayl and arrested nine of its residents in retaliation for an operation carried out by resistance fighters last Monday in which they detonated an explosive charge near an occupation forces patrol, killing an Israeli officer and wounding his aide.

Army Releases Palestinian Detainees

NC0907083491 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] The Defense Ministry's information department has announced that 55 Palestinian detainees were released today after investigations showed that they did not resist or attack the Army during its deployment in Sidon and the eastern suburbs. Sixty-seven other detainees were released on Saturday.

U.S. Help Sought in Army Deployment in Jazzin

NC0507160991 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] AFP has cited a government source as saying that Lebanon has asked the United States to help ensure the Lebanese Army's deployment in the Jazzin area. The request came during an official contact last night and will be followed by a meeting to be held soon between President Ilyas al-Hirawi and U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker. The source added that Lebanon also wants Wahsington's help in implementing Resolution 425.

Minister on U.S. Role

NC0507161991 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] Following his meeting with influential officials in Sidon today, Minister 'Abdallah al-Amin said: With the completion of the Army deployment in Sidon, the surrounding area, and Kafr Falus, there is no justification for treating Jazzin as an extraordinary case. He stressed that Jazzin must return to the fold of legitimacy and noted that elements of the Army command from Beirut are in Jazzin. Minister al-Amin stressed that the United States and the international community are responsible for helping the government deploy in Jazzin and to return it to legitimacy.

In reply to a question, he said that the deployment in the al- Zahrani area is still under study. He added: Following the deployment in Sidon, I believe that matters are nearing their conclusion.

Israelis Reinforce Jazzin Positions

NC0707112091 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Text] The successful outcome of the Army deployment in Sidon and the surrounding areas appears to have annoyed the Israeli enemy, particularly in light of the local, regional, and international support for this step. According to reports from the occupied border strip, the Israeli occupation forces have reinforced their positions around Jazzin with troops and armored vehicles. Israeli forces installed artillery batteries in al-Surayri and al-Qatranah, instituted foot and mobile patrols, and reinforced observation posts in the eastern sector.

Hizballah's al-Musawi on Army Deployment, Hostages

NC0807054491 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Hizballah Secretary General 'Abbas al-Musawi has stated that his party did not oppose the Army deployment in the south. In a statement to AL-ANWAR, he said that the Army's main mission should be confronting Israel. Al-Musawi also reiterated that the United States is complicating the hostage issue. He said: Had the United States truly been interested in resolving this matter, it would have pressured Israel to release its Muslim prisoners.

Bush Remarks on Israeli Settlement Policy Viewed

JN0307145891 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Jul 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] In statements yesterday, U.S. President George Bush did not conceal one of the most important facts revealed by the diplomatic efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the region. He said that the building of settlements in the occupied Arab territories constitutes a major obstacle to peace efforts in the Middle East, and that the United States objects to Israel's settlement policy. In the context of his diplomatic treatment of the region's crisis, President Bush did not conceal that the United States and Israel are in a sort of disagreement over the issue of settlements, and that President Bush, according to the latest reports, is now thinking about disclosing the identity of the party that is obstructing the efforts underway to establish peace in the Middle East. Perhaps the importance of such a declaration comes from the fact that it is a U.S. declaration made by the highest-ranking official in the United States following months of dialogue and follow-up during which Washington came close to the overall ideas and facts that govern the region's crisis and determine its future, and after Washington had identified the red lines drawn by Israel against peace. By these red lines Israel hampers every sincere effort and aborts every hope for a just settlement that restores rights to their owners and frees the region from the threat of wars and disaster.

Before the final conclusion that Washington implied it may declare, perhaps soon, every one in the region and abroad will know that Israel is the party that is obstructing peace efforts in the Middle East, and that Israel was not, is not, and will not hope for peace as long as it is governed by that dangerous coalition that makes it imagine that by force it can subjugate the Arabs and that it will always find in the West and in the United States people willing to supply it with the power to achieve its Torah dream of establishing a Greater Israel from the Euphrates to the Nile on the fragments of the Arabs and the debris of their cities, villages, and homes. Coming to the conclusion that Israel is absolutely unwilling to contribute to the making of peace, it will not just be demanded that the United States testify before us and the world to relieve its conscience and to meet its obligations before the international community. It will be demanded that Washington expose Israel and convince it through practical means that Washington will never support it implementing a policy to which the United States publicly objects. This is the first step by which Washington can affirm its credibility and prove that it supports a just peace in the region, not the Israeli peace which is full of pitfalls, and that it supports the region's security and stability, without having the Arabs alone pay the price.

Lebanese Determined To Liberate Occupied South

JN0607161091 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Gentlemen: It will no longer be possible to question the ability of the Lebanese Government to assert its authority throughout the country, assure security for its citizens, and command respect for its word and pledges. The doubts raised by Israel over the viability of the Lebanese Government have all but been quashed by the Lebanese Army deployment in the Sidon area, where it has done a good job of assuming direct responsibility for security and imposing the authority and laws of the state. Lebanon's restored vigor and the dynamism required to carry through the process of unification, reconciliation, and accord, and to resume its enlightening role in the region are now clear for all the world to see.

If utterances by Lebanese Government officials and the way the government has been conducting itself are any guide, then the Lebanese Government must have honored all its commitments, and is resolved to exert itself in the cause of liberating the occupied south and reuniting it with the motherland. [passage omitted]

As soon as the Lebanese Army completed the last phase of its deployment, a Lebanese Government official was reported to have said that the government had initiated contacts to deploy the military in the Jazzin region controlled by the agent Lahd gang whose very existence depends on the enemy army. Once Jazzin is recovered, the source added, Lebanon will work to impress on the international community the need to enforce UN Security Council Resolution 425 calling for an unconditional Israeli withdrawal from the occupied south.

Surely Israel can no longer make any convincing case for its continued occupation of Lebanese territory. Nor will Lebanon acquiesce in the severance of a chunk of its territory, or let the agent Lahd gang bully its citizens and commit aggression. Lebanon will no longer remain silent over the theft of its waters and the diversion of its rivers. Southern Lebanon is of crucial importanc to the country; indeed, without southern Lebanon, the country can hardly survive. The Beirut government will neither bargain over nor concede a single inch of the south. It is determined to see Jazzin restored to its authority; it is equally resolved to press the international community to live up to its responsibility to force Israel to unconditionally pull back from the border strip. [passage omitted]

Having sincerely accommodated international efforts and facilitated U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's task, the Arabs will under no circumstances relinquish their occupied territory or Palestinian rights. Neither are they expected by anyone anywhere in the world to let go of these fundamental rights. President George Bush has

repeatedly said in no uncertain terms that a fair, comprehensive Middle East settlement rests on the territory-for-peace formula, and that settlement building in the occupied land constitutes a major stumbling block to peace efforts. [passage omitted]

Israel Refuses To Withdraw From Lebanon

JN0807154491 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: As in the past, Israel has ignored the universal fact that it has led the region's crisis to a stalemate. It is also making irresponsible statements aimed at one objective. Therefore, we believe that Israel does not seek or want peace, even if it has to oppose the whole world and totally paralyze the opportunity for stability, security, and a just settlement.

In its latest statements, Israel informed the world that it refuses to withdraw from southern Lebanon under any conditions, even though the excuses Israel used to occupy and dominate part of Lebanese territory—a part no less dear to the Lebanese people than any other—no longer exist.

Israel, which is still expanding settlements in the occupied territories, stockpiling huge quantities of weapons, and opposing every step taken by the world to establish peace in the region, does not feel embarrassed when it makes comical statements to the world from time to time that Syria is hampering the peace process and Damascus constitutes an obstacle to international efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive solution to the Arab-Zionist conflict.

Many of those interested in the development of the region's crisis over the past months, particularly after the Gulf war, probably know that these Israeli statements and announcements are only a smokescreen by Israel on the international stand so as to hide it from world public opinion, especially since this international stand has become convinced that the only obstacle to peace efforts is Israel, that the real threat to peace and security in our world is Israel, and that Zionist ambitions on Arab lands did not, do not, and will not have any limits.

This Zionist smokescreen, however, can no longer conceal the region's facts after the world has understood all aspects of the crisis and acquainted itself with the unknown part that Israel concealed in the past.

Is it Syria or Israel that is opposing Lebanese legitimacy and trying to spread its sovereignty over Lebanese territory? Is is Syria or Israel that is working secretly and publicly to abort all that has been achieved in Lebanon? Is it Syria or Israel that is defying the world's will to see Lebanon restored to normal? Is it Syria or Israel that is placing obstacles in front of the peace conference? Is it Syria or Israel whose measures conflict with the spirit and requirements of peace?

Truth is no longer a mystery for anyone. As a result of Israel's disobedience, the world is required to use every means to clarify any ambiguity and to stop continued Israeli aggression against the Arabs, if we really want to see security and stability in our world, peace and justice in our region, and an unviolated credibility for international legitimacy, contrary to what is taking place at the hands of the Israeli leaders today.

World Community Must Make Israel Abide by 425

JN0707094291 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0330 GMT 7 Jul

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Inevitability of Israel's Withdrawal From South Lebanon," AL-BA'TH newspaper says in its commentary today: With the deployment of the Lebanese Army forces in the Sidon area and its suburbs, the legitimate Lebanese government has made a great stride toward controlling all of Lebanese territory without exception within the framework of the al-Ta'if accord, realizing national reconciliation, and maintaining security and stability throughout the country.

AL-BA'TH adds: It has become clear that Israel's intransigence vis-a-vis southern Lebanon or the Middle East issue and the Arab-Israeli conflict is based on the aggressive and expansionist objectives which the Zionist entity is based on. These objectives stem from certain concepts summed up in the continuation of aggression against the Arab nation in order to prevent it from realizing its goals in unity, liberation, and independence; and in the obstruction of all initiatives for a just and lasting solution to the Middle East problem.

Israel wants neither peace nor stability for the region, because peace and stability obstruct its expansionist plans, put an end to its ambitions to set up its greater state from the Nile to the Euphrates, and abort its plans to herd all the world's Jews into the region in order to use them to realize its mythical dream.

Concluding, AL-BA'TH says: The international community, which has scored remarkable achievements over the past few years along the path of implementing the international law and legitimacy and of ending hotbeds of tension and explosion in many parts of the world, is now being asked to seriously and decisively support the legitimate Lebanese government in its confrontation of Zionist intransigence and to force Israel to abide by UN Resolution 425, which calls for its complete withdrawal from southern Lebanon and noninterference in Lebanese affairs.

Paper on Saddam's Loss of Credibility With Arabs

JN0607113691 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0850 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] Damascus, 6 July (SANA)—In an editorial today, the newspaper AL-THAWRAH says that the

situation in Iraq and the Iraqi regime's continued control of the Iraqi people's fate give rise to big questions and great amazement.

The paper wonders: How can a regime which led a country to all this killing and devastation remain in power, defying the people's will and the nation's aspirations?

The paper says that as soon as the despotic regime withdrew from Kuwait, it launched a large-scale campaign of repression within Iraq against the uprising of the people who rose to take their rulers to account for the mistakes and sins they committed against Iraq and the nation and for the disasters they inflicted on their people and country. It seems that the latest of these disasters will leave effects for many years to come, especially if the Saddam regime remains in power, and in view of the international isolation and total embargo imposed on it as long as Saddam is in power.

The paper adds: Despite this regime's attempt to show a trend toward "patching up the situation" and to introduce reforms into its tyrannical structure, and despite its efforts to lift its Arab and international isolation, it seems that it has completely lost its domestic, Arab, and international credibility.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: Iraq's dilemma is the existence of a ruler who does everything and offers everything to keep his head and his regime, paying no attention to values and principles and unrestrained by conscience.

Afghanistan

Talks Between Tehran, Peshawar Group Fails

BK0307052791 Lahore THE NATION (Islamabad THE NATION Supplement) in English 2 Jul 91 pp 1,4

[Text] Islamabad—There could have been no breakthrough in the talks between the leaders of the Tehran-based Alliance of Eight parties of the Afghan Mojahedin with the Peshawar-based leaders of the Resistance groups.

The reasons behind the same were the differences within the Seven-Party Alliance of the Mojahedin based in Peshawar on the representation of the Iran-based groups of resistance in the Interim Government of Mojahedin.

Maulvi Younas Khalis who has recently resigned from the Office of the Minister of Interior in the government was of the opinion that the Iran-based Mojahedin should not be given representation at all in the government and the reason of his resignation was the same.

On the other hand, the President of the Government, Prof. Sibghatullah Mojadeddi with whom they hold two rounds of talks recently, refused to entertain their demand for at least five seats in the "Shura" (traditional parliament).

They are being offered three seats which the leader of the Iran-based Mojahedin Hujatul Islam Rehamatullah Murtazvi currently visiting Pakistan has refused to accept.

Mr. Rehmat when asked about the situation said 'Maulvi Younas Khalis is against our representation in the Shura and does not consider us to be the Muslims even. But he cannot deny that we constitute 25 per cent of Afghanistan's population and that we too have been struggling against the Soviet invaders and the puppet regime backed by them (Soviet Union) in Kabul.

Mr Rehmat has assured Prof. Sibghatullah that he would be able to further negotiate with them following consultations with the leaders of the eight parties based in Tehran.

Countries which have been backing the Mojahedin want understanding between the two and the representation of the Iran- based Mojahedin before formally recognising the Interim Government.

The leader of the Iran-based Mojahedin who also have met officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs would again visit Pakistan by the last week of this month for another round of talks with Prof. Mojadeddi.

Mujahidin on UN Peace Plan, No Role for King

BK0307055991 Lahore THE NATION (Islamabad THE NATION Supplement) in English 2 Jul 91 p 1

[Text] Islamabad—Hujjatul Islam Rehmatullah Murrazavi, chief of the Hizbe Wahdat-e-Islami, the Tehran-based alliance of Afghan Mujahidin said there on Monday afternoon that the UN peace formula was acceptable to his organisation except for its provisions about inclusion of Najibollah in the talks on the future government of Afghanistan.

"Neither can we sit with Najibollah nor accept him on any position in the Afghan government," he said, stressing that Najeeb was a puppet of the Soviets and in fighting him, the Mujahidin were in fact fighting the against Soviets.

Addressing a Press conference here, he said, Hizbe Wahdat-e- Islami's talks with the Peshawar-based Mujahidin will resume after 25 days.

"We don't have any other differences with them except that we are demanding five seats in the 28-member proposed commission while they are offering us only three seats," he said in reply to a question.

Replying to another question he told newsmen that Shia population formed 25 per cent of the total Afghan population as, according to a census carried out during Daud's time and later recently reconfirmed by a French survey, there were four million Shias in 15 million population of Afghanistan.

Talking about Zahir Shah's possible role he said, "Zahir Shah has no role to play in politics of Afghanistan nor may he get any position in a future Afghan government as he has no among Afghan people." [sentence as published]

About effects of diminished US aid to Mujahidin he added that it would affect on Mujahidin's struggle. He said "some Peshawar-based Mujahidin have undoubtedly been receiving US aid but the struggle will remain largely unaffected by US aid cut off". He categorically stated that the Iran-based Mujahidin had never received aid from United States.

Muhajidin Accept 4 of 5 Points of UN Plan

BK0307071791 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 2 Jul 91 p 14

[Text] Peshawar, June 1—The AIG [Afghan Interim Government] has accepted four of the five points announced by the UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, for the political solution of the Afghanistan issue and sought clarification of the one relating to the transition period, intra-Afghan dialogue and establishment of a broad-based government.

A MIDIA commentary said in Peshawar on Monday that the special representative of the UN Secretary General, Benon Sevan, was in Peshawar meeting the Resistance leaders and urging them not to express any opposition to

the plan when the General Secretary's announcement would take place. Despite his efforts some of the leaders reacted very strongly against the plan equating it with Kabul's national reconciliation while some others expressed reservations and asked for explanations while acknowledging the positive points contained in the plan. None supported the plan whole-heartedly. However contrary to the Resistance, the Kabul regime, the Soviet Union, the USA, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Pakistan, and some European countries as well as the exiled Afghans residing in the West warmly welcomed the plan and expressed complete support.

A closer and deeper study would reveal however, that the problem lay elsewhere. It was the five-point plan itself to be blamed for being vague, and occasionally contradictory. Three of the points relating to the sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence, non-aligment and Islamic character of Afghanistan, the right of the Afghans to determine their own system, and the need for future foreign assistance stated the obvious and none could reject then though some wordings seemed objectionable because they did not reflect the facts.

Similarly, it added the fourth point about an end to "arms supplies to all Afghan sides" supplies to all Afghan sides after implementation of political solution, also seemed clear and non-controversial. The real problem was with point number three, which it observed was the real substance of the plan. It talked about "a transition period," an "intra-Afghan dialogue," and "establishment of a broad-based government." This point itself has three sub-points.

The arrangements immediately after the removal of the Kabul regime it agreed should be transitional but it was not clear whether such arrangements would take place after the removal of the regime or simultaneously the establishment of an "impartial transition mechanism" could be interpreted as an end to pro-Russian government in Kabul but how come Najib welcomes the plan and in the meantime insisted that he was not prepared to step down? It said that since the UN officials knew that the Resistance will never agree to negotiate with Kabul thus "intra-Afghan dialogue" could be interpreted to exclude the Kabul regime. But it could also be interpreted to include it and Kabul itself certainly interpreted it that way. And if that was the case, it was contradictory to the other clause of the plan which talked about the "Islamic character of Afghanistan?"

Referring to the "transitional arrangements acceptable to the vast majority of the Afghan people" for holding elections, it asked as to who before elections, will determine that the arrangement was acceptable to majority of Afghans. It claimed that the six parties who formed the AIG represented the majority of Afghans and if other major parties also joined, it would certainly become "vast majority".

Another point in the plan which needed clarification related to the "free and fair elections, taking into account Afghan traditions." Which "Afghan tradition?"

The Secretary General's plan, it said, also indicated the role of the UN and other international organisations during the transition and elections but it did not clarify, what kind of role they intended to or could play.

Bangladesh

Water Resource Meeting Held With PRC

PRC Delegation Arrives

BK0407155691 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1530 GMT 4 Jul 91

[Text] A nine-member Chinese delegation led by vice minister for water resources, Mr. (Wan Shoqian), arrived in Dhaka today. The members of the delegation will attend the three-day Bangladesh-China high-level meeting on flood control and river training of the Brahmaputra beginning in the capital tomorrow. The meeting will review and approve the joint study report on Brahmaputra flood control and river training completed under China-Bangladesh technical cooperation. The two sides are expected to discuss long-term China-Bangladesh technical cooperation for implementation of flood control and river training projects in Bangladesh on the basis of the findings and recommendations of the joint study report. The study report prepared by experts of the two countries will be formally presented to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia on Saturday [6 July] next.

Meeting on Water Resources Begins

BK0507133991 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh External Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] Bangladesh and China have begun a high-level meeting in Dhaka on flood control and river training project on the Brahmaputra. The three-day meeting, which began Friday [5 July], will review, approve, and adopt the study report on flood control and river training project. The report was earlier prepared by a joint team of experts of the two countries. The meeting is also expected to discuss the long term Bangladesh-China technical cooperation for implementation of the flood control and river training works in the country. Bangladesh and China are likely to sign an agreement on implementation of the project on Sunday.

The visiting Chinese vice minister for water resources (Wan Shoqian) is leading the nine-member delegation at the meeting. An 11-member Bangladesh team at the talks is being led by the secretary of the Ministry of Irrigation, Water Development, and Flood Control, M.A. Malik.

Vice Minister Meets Water Resources Minister

BK0607161691 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1530 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] The visiting Chinese vice minister for water resources, Mr. Wang Shouqiang, had a meeting with Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control Minister Majedul Haq in Dhaka today. The Chinese minister handed over to Mr. Majedul Haq the study report on flood control and river training project on the Brahmaputra in Bangldesh. The report has been prepared by a joint team of Chinese and Bangladeshi experts with financial and technical assistance from China. The two leaders discussed long-term China-Bangladesh technical cooperation for effective implementation of water development and river training program in Bangladesh as recommended in the study report.

Flood Control, Water Resource Pact Signed

BK0707161291 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1530 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Text] Bangladesh and China have signed an agreement for cooperation on flood control, river training, and harnessing of water resources in Bangladesh. The agreement came today after a three-day meeting held in Dhaka between the two sides. The visiting nine-member Chinese delegation led by vice minister for water resources and 11-member Bangladesh team of experts and officials headed by irrigation, water development and flood control secretary, M.A. Malik, took part in the meeting. The agreement was signed for scientific and technological cooperation between the River Research Institute in Bangladesh and the Institute of Water Conservancy and Hydroelectric Power Research in China. A study report on flood control and river training project on the Brahamputra River in Bangladesh jointly prepared by experts from China and Bangladesh was also reviewed, approved and adopted in the meeting.

Army Contingent Leaves for Service in Kuwait

BK0707161791 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1530 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Text] The first batch of Bangladesh Army contingent of 250 officers and troops led by Colonel M. Shah Jalal left Dhaka for Kuwait this morning. They are part of the Bangladesh Army contingent to be sent to Kuwait for taking part in the reconstruction of the country.

India

Six ULFA's To Be Exchanged for Two Hostages

BK0907091291 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] The Government of Assam has issued an order for immediate release of the six ULFA [United Liberation Front of Assam] activists detained in different jails as demanded by the organization, in exchange for two of the 14 persons abducted on the first of this month. According to earlier arrangement, only three persons were scheduled to be released today. In a press release issued at Dispur, the government said that immediate action has been taken following yesterday's commitment made by the chief minister, Mr. Hiteshwar Saikia, to grant general amnesty to all the ULFA detainees in the state. The government further reiterated its hope that the organization will now come forward to accept the offer of general amnesty to its activists by releasing all the 14 hostages and also indicating its desire for a negotiated settlement of the problem.

'Reasonable Demands' of Kidnappers To Be Met

BK0907092491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir Government has described as totally untrue the reports appearing in a section of the press that bodies of 113 youths are lying in a forest in (Devnath) area. An official spokesman said in Srinagar that such reports are based on rumors being spread by those who want to create tension among the people. The spokesman said the government will provide all facilities to any journalist who may like to visit the area to crosscheck the facts.

According to a reliable source in Srinagar, efforts are on for the kidnapped IOC [Indian Oil Corporation] official, Mr. Doraiswamy. Negotiations regarding release of one person in exchange are in progress. As already reported, the Jammu and Kashmir Government appealed to the militants not to act in haste and release Mr. Doraiswamy unharmed. An official spokesman said that the government is prepared to discuss the modalities for a satisfactory solution of the matter. It is also going to meet the reasonable demands of the kidnappers to a substantial extent, he added.

Meanwhile, the situation in the valley is peaceful. The state government has requested the people not to believe the mischievous rumors being spread to create trouble.

Spokesman Criticizes 'Facade' in Kashmir

BK0907035491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0240 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry has said in New Delhi that the recent developments in Pak-occupied Kashmir remove the facade of autonomy sought to be created by Pakistan there. Replying to a query at his briefing, he said the central authorities in Islamabad have been repeatedly imposing their will ignoring the democratic aspirations of the people in the occupied Kashmir. This, he said, exposes the hollowness of the Pakistani claim that the area is an independent entity.

Commentary Views Election 'Farce' in Kashmir

BK0507124991 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Commentary by Samuel Ved, editor of Pakistan desk at UNITED NEWS OF INDIA]

[Text] The post-June 29 election developments in occupied Kashmir have exposed Pakistan's new claim of democracy and stability in that part of Kashmir. The controversial victory of the Muslim Conference or for that matter the complete rout of the Pakistan People's Party [PPP] at the election in occupied Kashmir caused no surprise. There is a single formula according to which only that party, group, or individual is allowed to rule that territory whom the rulers at Islamabad want. Since 1970 when the Pakistani government decided to stage the farce of elections in occupied Kashmir, there has been no instance of a party other than the one sponsored and supported by the ruling clique at Islamabad winning an election. Thus, farce is the word for the election in the occupied territory because it does not reflect the verdict of the voter there.

After the dismissal of Ms. Benazir Bhutto's PPP government in August last year, her party's government in occupied Kashmir was under severe pressure to quit. Puppet President Sardar Qayyum who belongs to the Muslim Conference was constantly threatening to bring a motion of no confidence against Mr. Mumtaz Hussain Rathore's government. But since his party did not have enough strength to carry out his threat, he appealed to the Pakistani Government to dismiss Mr. Rathore, whether or not it was legal. Mr. Rathore preempted any action against his government by recommending the dissolution of the assembly. He was sure that he would bring the fresh elections with a greater majority than he did in May 1990. What gave him this confidence was not clear. It could have some Pakistani agency which had persuaded him to dissolve the assembly and promised him support at the June election. This agency could have been the notorious Inter-Service Intelligence, ISI, which Sardar Qayyum alleged helped Rathore to assume power after the May 1990 election.

As reports in the Pakistani press go, the Pakistani Government and the ISI at one time decided to drop both Sardar Qayyum and Rathore and form a new alliance in the occupied territory to carry out more effectively their support to terrorist activities in Kashmir. As a result, the Tehrik-i-Amal Party of Major General Hayat Khan was converted into a Kashmir branch of the Muslim League. In May, the league (?formed) two factions of the Muslim Conference and the PPP, and the Liberation League formed in occupied Kashmir chapter of the Islami Jamhoori Ittehad [IJI]. However, the ISI and the Nawaz Sharif government soon changed their mind because this new strategy was uniting traditional rivals—the Muslim Conference and the PPP. The angry statements of the leaders of these two parties indicated a possible confrontation between Islamabad and Kashmiri leaders. This confrontation was likely to be joined by the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front which opposed to the election and any suggestion of Kashmir joining Pakistan. In view of this possibility, Mr. Nawaz Sharif assured Sardar Qayyum that he regarded Muslim Conference as the Muslim League in occupied Kashmir. This change in Mr. Sharif's strategy was greatly resented by Maj. Gen. Hayat Khan who had dissolved his Tehrik-i-Amal Party to launch IJI in occupied Kashmir. Rathore too realized that he was taken for a ride by the Pakistan Government.

One interesting aspect of Pakistan's involvement in the affairs of occupied Kashmir is that Islamabad uses its national press to keep on maligning the Kashmiri leaders and project them as corrupt and totally unmindful of their responsibility toward the common man.

Sardar Qayyum has been known as the stooge. But he has been the most maligned person by the press as corrupt and unprincipled seeker of power and money. This projection makes the Pakistani Government in the minds of the people of the occupied Kashmir as their true savior. Pakistan wanted to use this farce of election in occupied Kashmir to mislead the world public opinion into believing that while India was not able to control things in its part of Kashmir, the occupied territory was living peacefully in a democratic system. The postelection developments once again betray Pakistani falsehood.

Home Minister Speaks on Punjab Polls, Abductions

BK0907034491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0240 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] The home minister said that the election process in Punjab would be restarted on the basis of a national consensus. Disclosing this in an interview broadcast in the Spotlight Program of All India Radio last night, Mr. S.B. Chavan said the center will initiate a broad-based dialogue with the leaders of all political parties on the issue. He said the present election process in Punjab is to be stopped and a fresh notification issued to ensure safety of contesting candidates.

Referring to the increasing menace of kidnapping in some parts of the country, Mr. Chavan said it should be treated as a national issue and a firm policy has to be evolved because the credibility of the government is at stake.

On center-state relations, Mr. Chavan said there will be no discrimination between the Congress-I and non-Congress ruled states. Mr. Chavan said the terms of reference of the commission inquiring into Rajiv Gandhi's assassination case would be widened after consultation with the chief justice of the Supreme Court by the prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao. He expressed satisfaction over the progress made by the special investigation team probing the case.

The home minister hoped that the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] government in Uttar Pradesh will be able to resolve the Ayodhya temple issue by negotiating a comprehensive settlement.

Rao Accuses Islamabad of Assisting 'Terrorists'

BK0807041891 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0240 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] The prime minister says a comprehensive economic program is on the anvil. It will ensure that no particular section of society is burdened and all make sacrifices according to their capacity. Mr. Narasimha Rao was addressing a news conference at the end of his day-long visit to Hyderabad last night. He made it clear that the government will continue its antipoverty programs while carrying out economic reforms. The prime minister made an impassioned plea for people's cooperation in the implementation of the economic programs. Mr. Narasimha Rao refuted the charge that the recently announced economic measures were at the behest of the IMF. He added that any delay in implementing these measures till his government won a vote of confidence in Parliament would have adverse consequences.

On the situation in Punjab and Kashmir, the prime minister said the government is considering new measures to solve the problems. He said Islamabad's assistance to terrorists in these two states and its atomic weapons program are the main irritants in the relations between the two neighbors. Mr. Rao made it clear that India will take a more active part in the Nonaligned Movement as it is more relevant today, though the priorities have changed.

On the Ayodhya [disputed shrine] issue, Mr. Narasimha Rao reaffirmed his party's stand in favor of the construction of the temple without dismantling the mosque. The prime minister also said that his government is in the process of widening the terms of reference of the Justice Verma Commission inquiring into the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi. On the Kaveri water dispute, Mr. Narasimha Rao said he will discuss the matter with the governments of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

Rao Comments on Domestic Issues, Gandhi Case

BK0807092291 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, has said that the poll promises made in the party's election manifesto on containing prices will be fulfilled. He was talking to newsmen in Hyderabad last night. He, however, declined to say anything on subsidies in view of the forthcoming budget.

When asked about demands in some quarters for the dismissal of the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] government in Madhya Pradesh, the prime minister merely said the Center has received complaints against the state government alleging rigging in the recent Lok Sabha elections.

On the investigation into Rajiv Gandhi's assassination, Mr. Rao said the Government is in the process of widening the terms of reference of Justice Verma Commission inquiring into it. He hoped the inquiry will be completed without much loss of time.

On the Cauvery [River] water dispute, Mr. Narasimha Rao said that the Center is seized of the problem and he will have talks with the chief ministers of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu on the issue.

Prithvi Missile's Surface-to-Surface Test Fired

BK0407141891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1405 GMT 4 Jul 91

[Text] New Delhi, July 4 (AFP)—India on Wednesday launched for the fourth time an indigenous surface-to-surface missile, which is to go into mass production next year.

The missile, called Prithvi (Earth), was fired from the Sriharikota test range in southern India at 1:52 p.m. (0822 GMT) and performed well despite bad weather, Defence Minister Sharad Pawar said in Madras City.

"We have proved that our defence preparedness is much better than any other country," the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) quoted him as telling reporters in the southern port city.

Prithvi is a tactical battlefield missile with a range of between 150-250 kilometers (93-156 miles) which can be launched from an eight-wheeled truck. It is to be mass produced for the Indian army in 1992.

The missile was first tested in February 1988, and subsequently in September 1989 and February 1991.

Iran

Khamene'i, Li Peng Discuss 'New World Order'

LD0807173691 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, received Chinese Premier Li Peng and the high-ranking delegation accompanying him this afternoon.

During the meeting, which was also attended by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, First Vice President Habibi, and the foreign affairs and finance ministers of the two countries, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i referred to the talk about the establishment of the new order in international relations. He said: What America calls the new world order is harmful to nations and advantageous to America's absolute hegemony. Therefore, Third

World countries, particularly those in sensitive areas, should establish more contact with each other.

He then described the effects of the common denominators between Iran and China on the expansion of mutual ties. He said: In her calculations, Iran considers China to be a country with whom she can have good relations in various fields. The ties between the two countries have been improving over the past few years, and we should follow the same course in the future.

During the meeting, Mr. Li Peng expressed his thanks and gladness about meeting the leader of the Islamic revolution. Stressing his country's willingness to expand relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, he said: Relations between Iran and China go back a few thousand years. These friendly ties have improved over the past few years. We always attach special importance to visits by Iranian officials to China. We are certain that such trips and my trip to Tehran will have a considerable effect on the expansion of mutual ties.

The Chinese premier then referred to the unrest in the world since America and the Soviet Union laid aside their differences. He said: We are not in favor of the world being dominated by America, or any minority, and the establishment of a new order by America in international relations. We are in agreement with Iran on that score.

Finally, the Chinese premier referred to the progress made by Iran. He expressed the hope that, under the leadership of his Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the Iranian nation will achieve further prosperity.

Li Peng on Nuclear Arms Control, Relations

LD0807183491 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng, who is in Tehran, has described his government's stance regarding relations between Iran and China and international issues. He was speaking at a news conference this afternoon.

Referring to the long-standing mutual relations and the outstanding expansion of diplomatic, economic, cultural, and technological ties between the two countries over the past few years, he said: Discussions on the maintenance of peace and the strengthening of friendship bonds and cooperation form the basis for this visit. I am certain that after this trip cooperation between the two countries will expand further.

Emphasizing the two countries' stances regarding current global issues, he said: The two countries believe in the establishment of a new order, based on reciprocal respect, noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries, peaceful coexistence, and respect for the territorial integrity of other countries. In our view, this new world order should not be established by only one or a few countries; but all countries, large or small, rich or poor, and strong or weak, should have a part in establishing it.

Referring to the various grounds for cooperation between Iran and China, he stated: I am certain that, despite their different political systems, the two countries can expand their cooperation in the future.

On Iran's role in the establishment of peace in the Middle East and the importance of the Persian Gulf, he said: The security of the region should be maintained by the people of this region and with the help of international organizations. Because of its strategic situation, Iran can play an important role in the Persian Gulf region.

About the Iraqi issue, he declared: At present, we believe that Iraq's problems should be solved by the people of that country. The other countries in the region could, however, help solve that country's problems.

About the possibility of China's joining the nuclear disarmament pact, referring to China's declared stance on the subject, he stressed the importance of the peaceful use of nuclear power.

Turning to his country's stance at the Paris conference on nuclear arms control in the Middle East, which will be attended by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, he said: At the conference we will maintain our fundamental stance. For Middle East arms control, all-around and committed principles should be followed. In other words, this policy should not apply to a few countries, but to all countries, and the countries in the region should be at a reasonable level from a military standpoint. If the participating countries take a fair stance at the Paris conference, China will deal with it positively. On the whole, we should tie in arms control with the peace trend.

Finally, referring to the construction period in our country, he said: In the past few years, under the leadership of His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i and Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Iran has undergone extensive construction and has achieved favorable results.

Predeparture Interview

LD0907101891 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] PRC Premier Li Peng, who had come to Iran at the invitation of President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, left Tehran this morning after a three-day visit and meeting with His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the leader of the Islamic Revolution, and other dignitaries of our country. He was officially seen off by First Vice President Habibi; Mr. Nurbaksh, minister of economic and financial affairs; and the foreign missions to Iran.

In a press interview before leaving Tehran, the PRC prime minister voiced satisfaction at the outcome of his

talks with our country's senior officials and said: We held similar and or identical views on international issues, in particular the issue of the new world order, which I can term as the greatest achievement of my visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The PRC prime minister added: In my talks with the Iranian officials, we also discussed ways of strengthening and expanding bilateral ties.

First Vice President Habibi, in an interview with our correspondent, said on the outcome of the PRC prime minister's visit to Iran: Our views on regional issues and bilateral ties, specifically with regard to the international situation, were close. The First Vice President added: The main point was that the Security Council, under China's presidency, sanctioned Resolution 598, and in fact that country is the principal architect of that resolution. For this reason, we call on our Chinese friends to take the necessary initiatives for the implementation of all clauses of that resolution, in particular in respect of payment of reparations.

The PRC prime minister will make a brief stop in Esfahan before departing from Iran.

Velayati, Qian Qichen View Bilateral Relations

LD0807195191 Tehran IRIB Television first Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Mr. Qian Qichen, the Chinese foreign minister, who has accompanied Mr. Li Peng, the prime minister of that country, to Tehran, met and conferred with Mr. Velayati, our country's foreign minister today.

While describing global developments, the Chinese Foreign minister said: Iran and China have common policies about many global issues. In our view security in the Persian Gulf region should be maintained by the countries in the region and it should be their responsibility. We are fundamentally opposed to interference by other countries in this region. He added: Iran could play an important role in the maintenance of security in the Persian Gulf region. The improvement of relations between Iran and other countries in the region would be beneficial to peace and security in the region and the world.

He said: the maintenance of Iraq's territorial integrity would be advantageous to the people of that country and the security of the region. In the Chinese Government's view, the people of Iraq should be given the chance to determine their own fate. He added: The new world order must not be based on bullying. One or a number of powers should not be allowed to take control of global affairs.

At the meeting, Mr. Velayati gave a full description of the situation in the Middle East, the Arab-Israeli crisis, and the Persian Gulf situation. He said: Only the Persian Gulf littoral states can maintain peace and security in the region, with the cooperation of each other. He added: For various reasons foreign forces cannot maintain security in the region, and their presence would cause further unrest. He said: Our relations with Persian Gulf littoral states have improved and are quickly expanding.

About the new world order he said: It is necessary for third world countries to prevent one or more superpowers from dominating the world. To achieve that, they should cooperate closely.

Finally the timetable for cultural, scientific, and educational exchanges in 1370 and 1371 [21 March 91-20 March 93] was signed between the two countries' foreign ministers.

Press Sees Li Peng Visit as 'Turning Point'

LD0907085691 Tehran IRNA in English 0703 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] Tehran, 9 July, IRNA—Two English dailies in their editorials Tuesday termed the current two-day official visit to Tehran of Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng as a turning point in bilateral ties.

Referring to the latest developments in the world including the downfall of the socialist regimes, elimination of the Eastern bloc and the emergence of the new world order, KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL said that Tehran-Beijing cooperation can safeguard the interests of the two countries and those of the Third World against Western hegemony. The new world order would not care for the interests of the Third World countries, it said adding "replacement of the bipolar global order with a unipolar order will give the Western cultural, economic and political system a free hand to dominate the world in the absence of a real and practical resistance."

Stressing that the progressive countries should find ways to safeguard their interests and integrity against "possible external invasion," it said that "China as one of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council is capable of playing a decisive and preventative role, of course in support of the oppressed nations' rights."

China's support for the UN-sponsored Middle East peace conference and its backing for Palestinians "will surely guarantee a stronger Arab-Palestinian presentation in the conference," it concluded.

Another daily, TEHRAN TIMES touching on significance of Iran and China in the present day world wrote there are grounds for closer cooperation between the two countries including world peace and security, human rights and restoring the rights and privileges of the deprived nations of the world.

The paper expressed hope that the volume of trade ties between the two countries which stands at dlrs. 300 million at present would increase and suitable conditions for cooperation in technical and cultural areas be provided.

Calling for the promotion of political, economic and cultural ties, the daily hoped that the two countries will manage a closer and more practical cooepration within the emerging new world order on an international level.

Reza'i Leads Military Delegation to Pakistan

LD0907105491 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] Major General Mohsen Reza'i, Commander in Chief of the Guards Corps, left for Pakistan at the head of a high-ranking military delegation this morning. According to a Central News Unit report, the military delegation which has gone to Pakistan at the invitation of General Mirza Aslam Beg, commander of the Pakistani Ground Forces, will visit military centers and arms plants during its stay in Pakistan. It will also discuss joint military cooperation.

Rafsanjani Invites Al-Qadhdhafi To Visit Iran

LD0707184891 Tehran IRNA in English 1801 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Text] Tehran, 7 July, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani discussed the latest developments in the region and the Muslim world with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in a telephone conversation today. During the talk President Rafsanjani invited the Libyan leader to visit Iran which was "warmly welcomed" by al-Qadhdhafi, according to a press release issued here by the president's office.

The Libyan leader also invited President Rafsanjani to visit Libya and participate in the inauguration ceremony of the 'nahrul sanaei' [al-nahr al-sana'i] (the great man-made river project) in that country.

According to the project signed with the South Korean construction firm Dong Ah in late 1983, some 2,000 kms of pipeline will carry 5m cu m of water per day from the southeast, beneath the Sahara Desert, to agricultural projects and towns on the Mediterranean coast. The cost of the contract, said to be the largest ever awarded in the Middle East, is said to be billions of dollars. Including agricultural infrastructure, it is estimated that the whole project may cost dlrs. 25 bn.

Press Cited on Unauthorized Price Increases

LD0907103291 Tehran IRNA in English 0808 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] Tehran, 9 July, IRNA—Two Persian language morning dailies Tuesday editorialized on the Monday statement of first vice president and government spokesman Hassan Habibi warning that no government organization is authorized to increase prices without having secured the approval of the High Economic Council or the president.

"JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI" wrote that now that the war has endend expectations of the people are greater than before and if they are not fulfilled, the people may not be able to find a convincing justification for the failure.

The basic point is that, continued the editorial, decisions made must not be as such to severely disrupt the normal life of the citizens and make it intolerable.

If such decisions are not based on sound policies, they may inflict serious damage on people's livelihood and may even destroy life of some.

Stating that although Habibi's warning may have come a bit late, the paper continued, it could prove to be effective, if taken seriously and followed up by the officials.

"The strong warning is a good start for encountering the uncalculated decisions and the general public expects it to be followed and executed vigorously and seriously at all management levels."

Meanwhile, the other Persian daily "ABRAR" wrote "we are not in a condition under which the people can still go on paying for incompetent managers."

It quoted the first vice president as having said that there are two kinds of price increases. In one case, the managers and directors increase price of goods and services on experimental basis and in the other, they do it upon their own will.

It is clear to the vice president that the economic conditions and the livelihood of the majority of the people—the salary earners and the low income families, is as such that raising the prices on an experimental basis cannot be justified.

Individual decisions by some government officials on increasing the prices is not the sign of absence of coordination in executive affairs of the country, but rather unfamiliarity of such officials with the society and its problems, wrote the paper.

Tehran Daily Calls for Action Against West

NC0807194891 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 25 Jun 91 pp 1, 2

[Editorial: "Nations Should Enter Into the Action"]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

The utter perplexity and confusion in the Arab courts in the course of the oil war created the conditions presently prevailing in the region, which have made Israel hopeful of capitalizing on these conditions for its own interests.

Although a large number of the Arabs were on the fronts of the allies in the oil war, along with all their resources and finances, and had entered the foray to make the Baghdad regime surrender, it appears now at the end of the war that they themselves are in an adverse situation.

The oil war weakened the front of the region's Arabs and tilted the equilibrium of the region against them, to Israel's benefit. With immense haste, Israel is seeking to capitalize on this golden opportunity in the interest of its policies and to strengthen its position. It is for this reason that the multilateral efforts have been initiated by the Zionists so they may reap benefits from every opportunity.

On the one hand, the military pressure on the people in southern Lebanon and the oppressed people of Palestine has increased so that now the Zionists are inflicting greater atrocities against the people of Palestine and Lebanon more freely, and the vast dimensions of their heinous atrocities are downplayed. [passage omitted]

Israel will henceforth be the sole, undisputed, and powerful base of the United States in the region, with more than four decades of clashes behind it, and it has encouraged the regional Arabs to make peace by highlighting their regional situation and by dragging them into humiliation. This is the great honor that the Republicans are being tempted to seek, prior to elections in the United States.

In tandem with this policy, which is being projected as peace-seeking, the despicable policy of "disarming the Arabs" and their "armed siege" and the absolute military support of Israel continue. No one talks now of an "arms balance" between the Arabs and Israel, as the policies have changed to favor Israel. [passage omitted]

The Arab governments are in a weak and humiliating position and have been intimidated. But there are some countries which can and should foil these abominable moves of Zionism and arrogance and combat them seriously and effectively. If this is delayed, tomorrow the nations will have to combat greater and more complicated problems and difficulties.

RESALAT on Dangers of 'Americanized Islam'

NC0707105591 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 22 Jun 91 pp 1, 16

[Mohammad Kazem Anbarlu'i editorial: "The Dangers of Americanized Islam"]

[Excerpts] The message by His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Revolution, to the pilgrims to the house of God has many significant features, which, if considered carefully, can smooth the road ahead. Among the dangers it warns of is that posed by Americanized Islam. [passage omitted]

What is Islam and what is meant by its Americanized version? The answer to this question lies not in details of jurisprudence, philosophy, scriptures and their interpretation, economics, politics, and Islam's rich cultural heritage—the whole boundless sea of divine knowledege—but in the crucial factor of the character of those who profess to implement divine Islamic ordinances. Are they the servile ones who have sold themselves to foreigners, who have committed treason against the nation, who drink wine and indulge in lewd behavior, and who claim to be champions of human rights and democracy and are affiliated to the Black House in Washington?

Or are they the scholars and the just and efficient managers who understand the realities of the world around them, defend their religion, and renounce carnal desires? [passage omitted]

Americanized Islam is a creed which the White House echelons have conjured up to extinguish the hallowed flames of the pure Islam of Mohammad (peace be upon him).

Americanized Islam is preached daily through the media of arrogance and the enemy's propaganda loudspeakers, especially American news agencies, magazines, and newspapers, which are largely controlled by the Zionists. They use the most advanced communications technology to shoot their poisoned arrows into the hearts of Islam and the Muslims. [passage omitted]

The main feature of Americanized Islam is hostility toward the principle of the "Velayat-e Faqih," [rule of the Supreme Jurisconsult] a principle which has given new meaning to the concept of government and sovereignty for a people thirsting for divine injunctions in an era of annihilation and ugliness.

Today, defending the boundaries of the "Velayat" and supporting its stance is truly an anti-imperialist measure. Indifference, silence, or, God forbid, action in the opposite direction—the pro-Zionist or pro-American direction—are inspired by Americanized Islam!

Today, foreign radio stations and a flood of foreign newspapers and other loudspeakers are the "pulpits" of Americanized Islam, advocating a form of prayers that not only does not condemn obscenity and immorality but actually condones them.

They support a hajj which not only does not disavow the pagans, but is instead geared to the benefits and interests of the pagans. They want an Islamic government where instead of a just, pious, efficient, and capable jurisconsult, a corrupt, profligate, and servile ruler is at the helm. [passage omitted]

ETTELA'AT on Need To Stem Brain Drain

NC0807155291 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 26 Jun 91 p 2

[Commentary by Seyyed 'Ataollah Mohajerani, vice president of the Islamic Republic of Iran: "Iranians Living Abroad"]

[Excerpts] For quite some time now, the subject of the return of Iranians abroad, regardless of the reason for their migration, or why they fled from this land and their homes, has been the theme of publications, as well as the

economic magazine feature of the Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [passage omitted]

Thus an important issue which merits consideration and is linked with the lives and destinies of millions of Iranians and their posterity has become a reason for jingoism. Some points may be considered on this:

1. The continued residence or return of Iranians abroad, first and foremost concerns them alone. Article 41 of the Constitution states: Holding citizenship from Iran is the undisputed right of every Iranian, which the government cannot deprive him of, except at his own asking, or if he accepts the nationality of another country." [passage omitted]

2. Among the 2 million Iranians residing abroad, there are those who are:
a. Part of the actual elements of the Pahlavi regime and those who strengthened the despotic monarchy of the shah.
b. Those who were employed in the security and intelligence apparatus of the military and law enforcement forces of the Pahlavi regime and were directly responsible for crushing the people and for their woundings and killings.
c. Capitalists who had become members of the political power network of the shah's regime through collusion and had taken advantage of the massive financial assets in the banks, took large sums of foreign exchange outside the country and thus harmed the country's economy and industry, as well as the people's assets in general.

Obviously these three groups will not return to Iran. All or most of them have placed their homeland in their "suitcases" and have lost their identity and culture. If there is any problem in this regard—and there is—it concerns the reasons we did not apply the laws on extraditing criminals and have most of them returned to Iran so that what was rightfully the people's could be retrieved.

For each one of these individuals, we should have identity cards so that the documents on their records of former plundering and pillaging could be intensively, correctly, and justly assessed. How many thousands would belong to all these three groups from among a few millions? On the basis of what logic or reasoning can we remain indifferent to hundreds of thousands of Iranian doctors, engineers, researchers, writers, and scholars living abroad, while importing doctors from the subcontinent? Why should we avail of the investment by foreign countries in the free industrial and commercial zones and ignore the considerable assets of those wealthy Iranians who are not in the category of those who fled after the victory of the revolution?

3. Attention to the problems of Iranians residing abroad is an open sign of stability, strength, and confidence in the system and the revolution. For this reason, the overall uproar outside the country against this invitation or the raising of this issue by the government has been much greater than the clamor at home. A kind of fear and apprehension has been perceived in the remarks by dissident groups claiming to be fighting against the revolution. It is for this reason that they seize the most minor assumption or pretext in order to project an atmosphere of suffocation in the society.

Wisdom dictates that by refraining from the "logic of similarities," such as George Bush saying that Iranians should return home or the monarchists and Monafeqin [Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization] saying not to return, we should study the issue from various angles. [sentence as published]

Opposition Forces Reportedly Attack Regime Base

NC0807154391 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1730 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Text] According to a report from the party committee of region one of Kordestan, at 0800 on 29 June, a Zagros force unit of the Democratic Party of Iranian Kordestan [DPIK] and the cadres of the party committee of Marivan took control of the main road linking the villages of Biakareh and Dezli with the villages of Zafyan and Meshkin in the suburbs of Marivan. A group of peshmergas lied in wait behind the village of Darreh Nakhi, which overlooked the enemy base near the village. The group of peshmergas who had taken control of the road stopped cars and discussed various problems of Iran and Kordestan with the drivers and explained to them the ideals of the national-democratic movement of Kordestan, the policy and stances of the DPIK, and the inhuman and sinister plans of the Islamic Republic.

After completing their propaganda mission, the group of peshmergas who had taken up positions on an point overlooking the Darreh Nakhi base opened fire on it with various types of weapons. According to a report, the attack wrought destruction and casualties on the enemy forces and base installations. No exact information on the number of enemy casualties has been received. After completing their operation, the valorous democratic combatants continued patrolling the region.

Pakistan

Spokesman Rejects Indian Stand on Kashmir Issue

BK0907025291 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] Pakistan has rejected the Indian contention that the United Nations does not have any role in the settlement of the Jammu Kashmir dispute as it is a bilateral issue between Pakistan and India. A foreign office spokesman said in Islamabad that the Jammu Kashmir issue is included in the UN Security Council agenda, which clearly states that the people of Jammu Kashmir should be given the opportunity to decide about their destiny through UN-supervised free and fair plebiscite. The spokesman called attention to the UN Security Council resolution adopted on 21 April 1948 and the resolutions of the UN Commission on India and

Pakistan dated 13 August 1948 and 5 January 1949. He said there is no legal, political, and moral justification for India's claim that Kashmir is an integral part of India. India had occupied Kashmir by force against the will of the people of the area. He said the Indian troops are adopting brutal steps like indiscriminate carnage and devastation, violence, dishonor of women, looting, and arson. The spokesman stressed that this issue cannot be resolved as long as the Kashmiri people are denied the right of self determination through a UN-sponsored free and fair plebiscite. He said the Simla accord clearly states that the bilateral relations of the two countries will be in consonance with the objectives and principles of the UN Charter. Nothing in the world can be more violative of the UN Charter than one member country preventing another from referring to the UN the settlement of any issue or dispute.

The foreign office spokesman has also reaffirmed Pakistan's determination to resolve the Siachen issue through peaceful negotiations. He expressed concern over the recent statements of the Indian defense minister accusing Pakistan of not taking steps toward a peaceful settlement of the issue. The spokesman said Pakistan has been making continuous efforts for a peaceful solution ever since India illegally occupied Siachen in violation of the 1949 Karachi agreement and the 1972 Simla accord. He recalled that at the fifth round of defense secretary-level talks, both the countries have agreed to pull back their troops to the locations that existed at the time of signing the Simla accord. He also recalled that the military officials of the two countries have already held two rounds of talks to determine the positions up to which the troops should be pulled out. But, these talks remained inconclusive as India raised issues which had nothing to do with the troop pullout.

Mujahidin Kill 30 Kabul Troops in Vardak

BK0507155691 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, more than 30 Kabul regime soldiers have been killed and a one tank damaged in fighting between mujahidin and Kabul troops around the besieged Meydan city in Vardak Province. Twelve Kabul regime soldiers have defected to the mujahedin. The reports also say Kabul regime military aircraft resorted to severe bombing and firing on the civilian population in Vardak Province, southwest of Kabul, killing more than 50 civilians. The bombing was aimed at reopening Kabul-Gardeyz Highway in the areas liberated by mujahedin.

Azad Kashmir Interim Prime Minister Dismissed

BK0507162491 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 5 Jul 91

[Text] APP [Associated Press of Pakistan] has reported that the Azad Kashmir interim prime minister, Mr. Mumtaz Hussain Rathore, has been dismissed under Article 56-A of the Azad Kashmir Constitution.

New Azad Kashmir Interim Prime Minister Named

BK0607055291 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Excerpt] Sardar Mohammad Ashraf, acting chief justice of Azad Kashmir Supreme Court, has been appointed interim prime minister of Azad Kashmir in place of Mumtaz Hussain Rathore. [passage omitted]

Spokesman on Recent SAARC Meeting

BK0907120091 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] The SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] foreign ministers at their recent meeting at Male had set up a high-level experts group on economic cooperation among member countries. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today that their recommendations would be ready for consideration by the next SAARC summit to be held in Colombo in November next.

He said the foreign secretaries of Pakistan and India also held talks at Male. They discussed the general state of bilateral relations, situation in occupied Kashmir, violation of human rights there and implication of the presence of Israelis in Srinagar.

The Pakistani prime minister's proposal to make South Asia free from nuclear weapons also came up for discussion at their talks.

Asked about the Indian foreign secretary's reaction on Pakistan's latest proposal, the spokesman said India was now looking at the rationale of this new initiative. He said the new Indian Government is studying the proposal in depth. The subject will come up for discussion at the next round of bilateral talks. The spokesman added that the nuclear issue was a bilateral matter between Pakistan and India and Pakistan would pursue the matter bilaterally in line with its national interests.

Application of Pressler Amendment to India Praised

BK0707085091 Kakrachi DAWN in English 16 Jun 91 p 11

[Editorial: "Towards a Non-discriminatory Approach"]

[Text] Seldom are happenings on Capitol Hill watched with as keen an interest in Pakistan as they have been in the last few days. The US House of Representatives' move to extend the purview of the Pressler Amendment to India is not without significance. This represents an attempt to address a blatant case of the application of double standards by Washington. Using its professed commitment to nuclear non-proliferation as a plea, the US has time and again blocked economic and military assistance to Pakistan on the ground that its nuclear programme has a military orientation. The latest suspension came last October when the Bush Administration failed to certify Islamabad's peaceful nuclear credentials.

But all along, the United States refused to apply the same criterion to New Delhi's nuclear programme whose underlying military purpose has never been in doubt. This discriminatory approach not only created a lot of heartburning in Islamabad vis-a-vis Washington. It also jeopardised the negotiation of a credible nuclear non-proliferation arrangement in South Asia.

The resolution adopted by the House of Representatives on Thursday does not signify a change of stance towards Pakistan. In fact, a day earlier on Wednesday the House rejected another motion calling for the restoration of economic and military aid to Pakistan. But by seeking to apply the same yardstick to India's nuclear programme, the US has for the first time recognised the validity of putting the nuclear issue into the regional context of South Asia. This should serve as an important factor in creating conditions for a balanced and equitable nuclear non-proliferation arrangement in South Asia. As long as Pakistan was discriminated against as the nuclear villain in the region, India's well-known nuclear capacity notwithstanding, it was impossible to negotiate a nuclear weapon-free zone that Islamabad has so ardently championed since 1974. True, the American Senate still has to pass the bill adopted by the House and the President has to sign it before it becomes law. Yet the move should help create a positive climate for Islamabad'd latest nuclear disarmament plan for South Asia which the Prime Minister last week. One only hopes that India's angry reaction will not discourage the Bush Administration from playing a helpful role in the establishment of a South Asian nuclear weapon-free zone.

A shift in the American stance towards South Asia should have a beneficial impact on Pakistan-US relations. Although the two countries had forged an equation based on close understanding and cooperation in the Afghan war years, their ties were characterised by mistrust and suspicion on the nuclear question. This was made worse by Washington's discriminatory attitude, especially after the Afghan war ceased to be the focus of their relations. The modification in Congressional thinking could well prove to be the starting point of an improvement in the relations between Islamabad and Washington. This is desirable not so much because of the American aid which some people think we should be striving for. The sooner we can learn to do without aid the better. On the other hand, it is this country's security concerns and its vital interest in economic and commercial exchanges which make it imperative for Pakistan to cultivate cordial relations with all major powers, more so the United States which has emerged as the key actor on the world stage.

Maldives President To Visit as SAARC Head

BK0907090491 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom of Maldives is to pay a two-day visit to Pakistan from the 17th of this month as the current chairman of the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation]. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad this morning that he would hold talks with the president and the prime minister on the SAARC issue. He said bilateral matters nevertheless would also come up for discussion during these talks. The Maldives president would also bring a questionnaire with him for discussion with Pakistani leaders to make the working of the SAARC more rationalized with a view to make the organization result-oriented.

Referring to the recently-held SAARC foreign ministers conference in Male, the capital of Maldives, the spokesman added that it made some concrete decisions to streamline the working of the organization.

Sri Lanka

Taiwan Challenges Confiscation of Rocket Motors

BK0907084591 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0614 GMT 9 Jul 91

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, July 09 (LANKAPUVATH)—The Taipei government has filed writ applications in the appeals court of Sri Lanka challenging the customs chief's decision to confiscate the 11,000 rocket motors found on board the vessel M.V. Marthalina. The application says the motors had been purchased by the Government of the Republic of China for its defence purposes and their confiscation will impair the security of that nation. It also argues that the motors by themselves cannot be classified as arms and armaments and cannot be considered dangerous weapons as they were not fitted with war heads. The petition also says that the customs authorities had violated the basic canons of natural justice as they did not hear the version of the Chinese authorities. The petition cited Director General of Customs, L.A. Heengama and Deputy Director General V.S. Karunanayake as respondents. Justices K. Palakidnar, Dr. Asoka de Z. Gunewardene issued notice on the two respondents returnable on July 22. The rocket motors were confiscated by the customs in March when the vessel M.V. Marthalina which carried them had entered Colombo Harbour without declaring the nature of the cargo. The incident created a sensation at that time.